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## HOME NEWS

## Ian Botham elects trial on charge of assault

Ian Botham, the England cricket captain, elected at Scunthorpe Magistrates' Court, Humberside, yesterday to go for trial on a charge of assaulting a Royal Navy apprentice causing actual bodily harm near a Scunthorpe night club.

Joseph Patrick Neenan, aged 21, Scunthorpe United's goal-keeper, admitted the charge and was fined £100 with £100 costs.

Mr Botham, who leaves with the England team for the West Indies today, did not appear, although he was jointly charged with Mr Neenan. Through Mr Ernest Lidster, his solicitor, he elected trial at Grimsby Crown Court. Mr Lidster said Mr Botham would deny the charge.

Commitment proceedings are expected to go ahead on April 29.

Mr Botham and Mr Neenan were jointly charged with assaulting Steven Robert Isbister on December 23 occasioning him actual bodily harm.

Mr Leslie Bell, for the prosecution, said Mr Isbister, aged 19, and a friend left Tiffany's night club in the early hours of the morning. Mr Isbister saw Mr Botham standing outside with Mr Neenan and asked him in a silly fashion: "Do you want my autograph?"

There was a minor discussion and a little pushing and pulling. The prosecution view was that any intervention at that stage by Mr Neenan was in the role of a peacemaker.

Mr Bell said Mr Isbister and his friend walked away but Mr Isbister was later stopped by Mr Botham in an alleyway. He added: "Botham took hold of the complainant and began to hit him. Then Neenan began to hit him as well. The complainant found himself on the ground."

"He lost a tooth through a kick in the mouth but he is not sure which of the two was personally and individually responsible."

Mr Bell said that a Mr Brocklesby spoke to Mr Botham and Mr Neenan and said: "Does it take two of you to kick somebody?" Mr Botham said: "I did not hit him". When accused of kicking the man, Mr Botham allegedly replied: "I did not touch him".

Mr Botham, of Mowbray Street, Epworth, near Scunthorpe, is an all-rounder with Somerset but trains with Scunthorpe United.

## TUC campaign will seek a £6,000m boost for economy

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The trade union movement is planning a propaganda campaign over the next few months linked to a call for a £6,000m boost for the economy.

Senior TUC leaders are completing the organizations' annual economic review, to be published early next month, which calls for big investment in manufacturing industry and public works based largely on North Sea oil and gas revenues.

The TUC will be seeking informal contacts with the Confederation of British Industry to find common ground for discussions with ministers under the auspices of the National Economic Development Council.

The TUC's alternative economic strategy will be tabled for discussion at the next meeting of the NEDC on February 4, which will be chaired by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Union leaders will be proposing a direction of funds from North Sea revenues and pension funds investment in manufacturing industry, probably through a newly created National Investment Bank.

Such a bank could call on funds of about £12,000m. Union leaders believe, and would be responsible for investment into what would initially be labour-intensive projects, such as big construction works, as a means of reducing unemployment.

The £6,000m stimulus to the economy would also encompass

changes in the taxation system, including a new method of indexation of personal allowances, and would provide extra money to the Manpower Services Commission to finance new training programmes and other measures aimed at reducing unemployment.

Members of the TUC's economic committee yesterday completed arrangements for a week of action in April when there will be protests throughout Britain against unemployment.

The keynote rally of the week in London, which will be addressed by Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party, will also be addressed by Mr Wim Kok, president of the European TUC.

The document has been circulated for discussion to all 109 affiliated organizations in readiness for a consultative conference on February 3. After the broad-ranging ideas have been debated, then come a series of reforms will be put to the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool in September.

The Organization, Structure and Services of the TUC (TUC Publications, Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS; 22).

## Unions join forces to oppose local spending curbs

By Our Labour Staff

Two big public service unions yesterday joined forces to oppose the Government's financial restraints on local authorities which they claimed could lead to the loss of 150,000 jobs.

The National and Local Government Officers Association, and the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe), which together have more than one million members in local government, claimed yesterday that a 15.5 per cent cut in local authorities' spending since 1974 proved that government claims of extravagant spending were unfounded.

The unions are calling on

members to adopt a 10-point plan, including refusal to cover unfilled vacancies, and opposition to all redundancies and to the introduction of outside contractors.

They set great store by getting other sections of the community involved in opposing local government cuts, and they are urging members to set up local campaign committees to involve trades councils, parent-teacher associations, amenity groups and tenants' associations.

Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary of Nupe, said the unions were committed to supporting members who took industrial action where appropriate.

## How three authorities in the North are grappling with spending cuts

## More job losses are feared if rates surge

From Ronald Kershaw, Leeds

Forecasts that Leeds City rates might increase by 25 per cent next financial year have brought a warning that such an increase would jeopardize more than 550 jobs in Leeds, where employment is running at 8.9 per cent and rising.

Mr J. Olav Arnold, president of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said in a letter to the council leader that his members were concerned about the impact of such an increase on manufacturing industry, which was constrained in passing on costs by the need to compete overseas and with imported goods made cheaper by the high value of sterling.

Rates are part of a general

upsurge in all kinds of overheads and the cumulative effect of rates, energy and public utility costs will certainly be to cause a further shedding of labour in the private sector.

A rate increase well above inflation will inevitably cause some firms to close. The rate increase could be the last straw for a number of companies.

In Leeds in 1980-81 more than half of gross expenditure had gone on salaries and wages. It followed that the biggest opportunity of holding down the rate would be to keep within the 6 per cent guidelines for local authority pay increases.

While full-time employees fell by 175, part-time employees had risen by 588. The chamber was disturbed at the disparity between other local authorities

and Leeds, which appeared to employ many people on a full-time equivalent basis now than it did in September, 1979.

Lancashire school cuts: In a £3m package of cuts, more than 1,000 teachers and other staff in Lancashire's schools and colleges will lose their jobs (Our Preston Correspondent writes).

For the first time teachers face compulsory redundancies. But Mr Andrew Collier, chief education officer of Lancashire, said he hoped that up to 400 teaching jobs would go voluntarily.

The other cuts include 176 care-taking, cleaning, catering, playing field and administrative staff; 150 secondary school teachers; 85 ancillary staff; 50 primary school teachers; 136

supply teachers and 84 further education staff.

Bradford defiance: Bradford Council, which is Labour controlled, is to defy the Government's guidelines to cut its spending by £8.6m or 5.3 per cent in the next financial year.

Labour councillors have decided that the overall cuts should not exceed 2 per cent. Council leader Derek Smith, the council leader, said yesterday that it was not yet possible to indicate the rate increase. But documents produced at a press conference showed that a 2 per cent cut in spending would increase the Bradford rate for householders by 43 per cent because of reduced government grants. The levy would be 117.2p in the pound compared with 87.4p at present.

## Brickworks proposal is dropped

By Our Planning Reporter

The London Brick Company said yesterday it had abandoned plans for a £30m works at Stewarby, Bedfordshire, because of "impossible conditions" made by the county council.

Nearly one hundred old chimneys were to have been replaced by a single 400ft stack. But permission was subject to the installation of equipment to remove sulphur dioxide and fluorides from the waste gases.

The company said yesterday there was no process available that would remove all the pollutants.

Because of the council's attitude, the county would lose the benefit of cleaner works. It was suggested, however, that the company might apply to build new works in neighbouring Buckinghamshire or Northamptonshire.

Farmers maintain that pollution from the brickworks harms livestock and in a letter to *The Times* last year Lord Tavistock, who lives near by, claimed that a higher chimney would spread that pollution.

A Department of the Environment report said there was no evidence that present concentrations of sulphur dioxide and fluorides were harmful to human health but their effect on animals and crops was less clear.



The Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, north London, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

## Minister 'has no role' in building dispute

By John Young, Planning Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has refused to intervene in a dispute over proposed extensions to the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, in north London.

The building was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, is listed grade 1 by the Department of the Environment, and is regarded as one of the most important examples of Edwardian architecture in Britain. It was one of Lutyens's last works before he left for India to supervise the building of New Delhi.

It was intended originally to have two wings, and would thus have occupied the whole of one side of the suburb's central square. But because of lack of funds the wings were never built.

In recent years the council of the institute, which was

established by Dame Henrietta Barnett as an educational and charitable trust, has insisted that it needs more room. The building is used as a school and for adult education classes.

Instead of following the original Lutyens plan, however, the council applied to build two modern extensions at right angles and to the rear of the existing building. Despite strong opposition by local residents, the Victorian Society, the Royal Fine Art Commission and Save Britain's Heritage, the application was passed by the Barnett council last year.

The Royal Fine Art Commission has described the quality of the architecture revealed in the design for the extensions as "quite inadequate". Other critics have observed that the design was thought inappropriate to emulate the Lutyens style, the extra accommodation could be found in a disused church nearby.

Mr Michael Max, chairman of the institute council, who is also vice-chairman of Barnett planning committee, has accused opponents of the scheme of using criticism of the design to conceal their real motives.

In a letter to local residents who had asked him to call a public inquiry, Mr Heseltine points out that, since the extensions will not physically touch the present structure, listed building consent is not required.

"You will appreciate that, as I have no locus in this matter, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the merits of the proposed development", he writes.

Objects are now pinning their faith on the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, which has powers to refuse any development that it considers harmful to the character of the suburb.

## IRA beset by differences over acts of terrorism

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

The Provisional IRA appears to be undergoing a period of soul-searching about future direction and there are indications of differences between the Belfast and Dublin ends of the organization.

Some influential leaders of the IRA in Belfast are stronger in advocating a more political role, but it is believed that the Dublin leaders want acts of terrorism to retain a primary place in the campaign.

The exceptional level of accord that has been established between the British and the Irish Governments, coupled with their agreement jointly to consider new institutional arrangements between the United Kingdom and Ireland, has done much to convince even some of the most hardline Republicans that the continuing violence is serving no immediate purpose.

Moderate Roman Catholic politicians in Northern Ireland have begun to seize on the new Dublin-Westminster relationship as a demonstration of British willingness to approach the Irish question in a different and more enlightened manner.

The wrath of the Unionists has been aroused, but Mrs Margaret Thatcher has clearly become impatient at their refusal to accept powersharing, which more than any other issue killed the exhaustive attempt to revive a devolved Ulster parliament last year.

Senior members of the security forces remain convinced that the IRA is capable of mounting a high level of attacks, despite the capture of some key men in the past year and the increasingly successful operations by the police and the Army in the border areas both in Northern Ireland and the Republic.

For the past few months the IRA has chosen to reduce its activities, largely in order not to alienate public opinion during the hunger strikes.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the main political voice of Catholics in Northern Ireland, yesterday called on the IRA to respond to the "deep longing" for an end to violence.

He told a party meeting in Armagh that it was time for the IRA to "grasp the political nettle" which it had avoided for so long. The old attitudes of the British Government to Ireland were crumbling.

Policemen die: An Ulster policeman died yesterday, six days after a gunman shot him in the head (the Press Association reports).

He was named by the Royal Ulster Constabulary as Mr Lindsay McDougall, aged 36, a part-time resident from Knockale Park, Belfast, who was married and had three sons.

He and another policeman were checking a suspicious car last Friday night when a gunman crept up behind him and shot him.

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Individual notification of the new bonuses will be given to policyholders with the Annual Report.



## Sergeant breaks down again at murder trial

One of the two soldiers accused of murder broke down again at his trial at Belfast Crown Court yesterday. Staff Sergeant Stanley Hathaway, aged 36, was led weeping from the dock minutes before the case was due to restart.

He was ushered from the courtroom by prison officers, followed by his psychiatrist. It was the second time he had broken down since the trial opened on Monday at the heavily guarded court in the Crumlin Road. Yesterday he was in the dock for six minutes.

He was sitting beside Sergeant John Byrne, his co-accused, waiting for Mr Justice MacDermott to arrive after a lunch-time recess, but he was clearly under considerable strain.

Sergeant Byrne and Sergeant Hathaway, aged 33, both former members of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, have pleaded not guilty to murdering Mr Michael Neen, a farmer, and Mr Andrew Murray, a labourer, at Mr Neen's farm in Co. Fermanagh in October, 1972.

Mr Chestnut, from Aberdeen, has pleaded not guilty to murdering Mr Murray. The trial had been adjourned in the morning after a brief hearing. It was later adjourned until today.

Support for Mr Conway Xavier, the dismissed deputy head porter at The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, crumbled yesterday when only 40 of the hospital's 280 ancillary staff attended a meeting to take a decision on industrial action.

Mr Xavier, aged 22, branch chairman of the National Union of Public Employees at the hospital, was dismissed last month for neglect of essential duties, unauthorized absence from work, and failure to behave with commitment to management. Mr Xavier denied the charges, but an appeal to the hospital's board of governors was dismissed on Tuesday night.

Mr Ian Barber, the union's area officer, said it was imprac-

## Handless body case jury is discharged

From Arthur Osman, Lancaster

Mrs Justice Heilbrunn discharged a jury at Lancaster Crown Court yesterday within 24 hours of it being empanelled for what she called "technical legal reasons".

A second jury, which again consisted of seven men and five women, was sworn but was immediately sent from the court.

The case, which opens in full, is expected to last until April at least. Today, the sixth full working day of the hearing, further argument will continue and the judge is expected to rule on certain matters.

Mr Michael Maguire, QC, for the Crown, might then open the case in which five men are accused of the murder of a man whose handless body was found in a reservoir.

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## Hospital porter loses union support for action

By Nicholas Timmins

Support for Mr Conway Xavier, the dismissed deputy head porter at The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, crumbled yesterday when only 40 of the hospital's 280 ancillary staff attended a meeting to take a decision on industrial action.

Mr Xavier, aged 22, branch chairman of the National Union of Public Employees at the hospital, was dismissed last month for neglect of essential duties, unauthorized absence from work, and failure to behave with commitment to management. Mr Xavier denied the charges, but an appeal to the hospital's board of governors was dismissed on Tuesday night.

Mr Ian Barber, the union's area officer, said it was imprac-

tical to call for action after such a low turnout.

The union fears that the successful dismissal of Mr Xavier may encourage other hospital managers to attack shop stewards. It cites a memorandum from the Department of Health and Social Security last month to regional personnel officers pointing out that action could be taken against managers whose trade union activities conflict with their jobs.

Three other Nupe shop stewards at Great Ormond Street face disciplinary hearings today.

Mr Barber believed the hospital would try to introduce new work practices soon. "The union members here will have to learn the hard way", he said.

## Home Office order may allow taxi charge

By Frances Gibb

The Home Office is expected to announce in the next three months an order to allow taxi drivers to collect a fee on top of the fare when booked by a radio service, despite a High Court ruling on Tuesday that it is illegal for drivers to collect such a charge.

The Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, which has 4,600 members, said yesterday that it had approached Home Office officials who had given "very sympathetic consideration" to making an order which allowed the drivers to collect the charge for the radio circuit.

Mr David Barnes, a spokesman for the association, said: "Since the ruling, we have told all 1,000 drivers on our London Wide radio circuit to stop collecting the booking fee. But we are confident that at or before the next fare increase in the late spring the Home Office will have issued a new order enabling drivers to do this."

Until the High Court ruling, the London Wide radio circuit, one of the three main radio circuits for licensed taxi drivers in London, was charging a booking fee of 30p in the week and 40p at weekends in addition to the metered fare.

Yesterday the Home Office said that there had been informal discussions with taxi associations on the booking fee in the past, but no ministerial decision had been possible while the law was unclear.

Now that a ruling had been made, the Home Secretary could consider the judgment of Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Forbes in the High Court were sympathetic to the reason for the charge, but said that it was illegal under the London Hackney Carriage Act, 1853 for a driver to demand or take more than the proper fare. Tips were not affected.

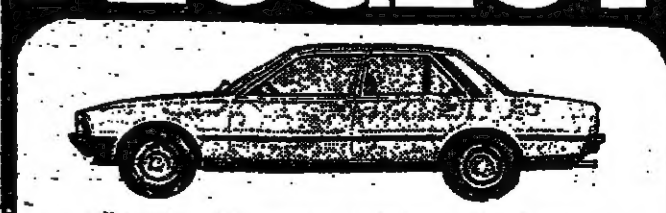
Mr Harold Feigen, general secretary of the association, said that since the charge was brought in about seven years ago to defray the costs of radio equipment, there had been hardly a single complaint from the six million or so people who had booked a taxi through the circuit.

The appeal was brought by London Wide against a magistrates' court ruling about two years ago that the booking charge was illegal because it said it wanted to test the law on that point.

At the time of the earlier ruling, the two other large-scale circuits in the capital, Owner Drivers' Radio Taxi Service (All London Radio Taxis) and Radio Taxis (Southern), dropped the charge.

Mr Kenneth Barnes, complaints officer of the 1,000-member Owner Drivers, said that it had been operating without the booking fee and could continue to do so. Mr Martin Rosenberg, of Radio Taxis, said the ruling was regrettable.

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## HOME NEWS

## More than 200 student research awards to be stopped or cut after PhD completion rate study

By Diana Gaddes  
Education Correspondent

More than 200 social science departments in universities, including some of the most highly reputed, are to have their Social Science Research Council (SSRC) awards for PhD students severely curtailed or stopped.

The length of time taken by research students to complete PhDs and the quality of supervision provided by tutors were among the most important factors taken into consideration by the SSRC in deciding which departments should be cut. Letters will be sent shortly to inform those concerned.

Like the Science Research Council (SRC), the SSRC has been increasingly concerned about the poor completion rates of research students in its field.

A recent study of SSRC-funded research students who embarked on PhD studies in 1973 showed that one tenth had completed their degrees within the "normal" three-year period for which a research grant is given. Less than a fifth had finished within four years and only two fifths had finished after six years.

The SSRC has compiled a list of universities ranked in order of the proportion of their SSRC-funded students who had com-

## Strathclyde top of PhD table

Order of institutions according to the proportion of their SSRC-funded students who started their research in the mid-1970s and who completed their degrees within an average of six years. Only universities with at least 20 SSRC awards a year are included.

1, Strathclyde; 2, Keele; 3, Bradford; 4, Nottingham; 5, Exeter; 6, Reading; 7, Manchester; 8, Leicester; 9, Durham; 10, Southampton;

11, Lancaster; 12, Warwick; 13, York and Swansea; 14, Liverpool; 15, Birkbeck, London; 16, Edinburgh; 17, Aberystwyth; 18, Hull; 19, Oxford; 20, Kent, Cambridge and University College, London; 21, Bedford, London; 22, Birmingham; 23, Sussex; 24, Glasgow; 25, School of Oriental and African Studies, London; 26, Bristol; 27, Sheffield; 28, London School of Economics; 29, Essex; 30, Institute of Education, London; 31, Leeds; 32, East Anglia.

pleted their PhDs within an average of six years. Strathclyde University has the best rate with more than half its SSRC-funded research students completing their degrees within that period, and East Anglia the worst with a completion rate of well below 20 per cent.

Some of the biggest names in the social sciences are well down the list. The London School of Economics is fifth from bottom, and Leeds, Bristol, Oxford, Cambridge, and University College, London, are all well within the bottom half.

Both the SSRC and the SRC feel that individual departments need to be scrutinized rather than institutions, and do not agree with the conclusion of

the Swinerton-Dyer working party on research students that the discrepancy between completion rates "represents a difference in the ethos of institutions".

Mr Michael Posner, chairman of the SSRC, said yesterday that after its triennial review of departments last autumn, the council had decided to cut the number of departments in receipt of SSRC "quota" places for PhD awards from 411 to 382.

The number of departments without "quota" places but eligible to compete for SSRC awards in a central pool would also be cut from 250 to 167. For the first time, the council had taken into account PhD completion rates.

## Role of social work to be investigated

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

The Government-sponsored inquiry into the role of social workers is to seek evidence both from members of other professions and from recipients of social services. Mr Peter Barclay, chairman of the National Institute for Social Work, disclosed yesterday.

Mr Barclay, chairman of a working party set up last year in response to a request from Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said three subgroups were being set up. They would cover users of the social services, professional people such as teachers and doctors who came into contact with social workers, and the practice of social work itself.

The working party hopes to examine the functions which might be removed from social workers, or which they might take on, and the financial, social and political decisions with which social workers are concerned.

It will cover the role and tasks of social workers employed in social services departments and related voluntary agencies in England and Wales. It has an open-ended budget from the Department of Health and Social Security.

Evidence is being sought by Easter for a report to be published this year. The working party will be visiting areas outside London to take evidence.

Mr Barclay thought the main motivation for Mr Jenkin's request for the inquiry was the widespread confusion about the role of social workers.

Guidelines for those wanting to submit evidence to the working party can be obtained from the National Institute of Social Work at 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SS.

## Law changes urged to help working women

By Lucy Rodgers

The Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday made public 25 changes it wants in the law to improve the position of women at work.

Lady Lockwood, the commission's chairman, said that she hoped the Government would take some action on them in the next parliamentary session. To that end the commission wrote last week to Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, setting out its recommendations, which it would discuss with the Confederation of British Industry and the TUC later in the year.

The commission said yesterday that its proposed amendments to the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts were based on five years' experience of their effects and on test cases it had supported.

No progress had been made on equal pay since 1978 and would not be until the law was changed. That was because of the restrictive wording of the Equal Pay Act, which said a woman had to find a man doing "broadly similar" work, or have her work rated under a job evaluation scheme, to claim equal pay.

The commission wants a broader interpretation of equal pay and English law to be brought into line with EEC recommendations. A recent EEC directive says that there should be equal pay for work of equal value.

The burden of proof under the Sex Discrimination Act should fall less on the employee, the commission recommended. That proposal, reported in *The Times* on January 5, is because women had extreme difficulty in proving discrimination.

The commission wants the Acts to be extended to pension and retirement arrangements, which are excluded. It is seeking to clarify the areas they cover by taking three test cases to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

The commission believes there should be a common retirement age for men and women. It said yesterday that the whole of Section 51 of the Sex Discrimination Act should be repealed.

That exempts all legislation passed before the Act from its provisions, and means, the commission says, that several anomalies exist.

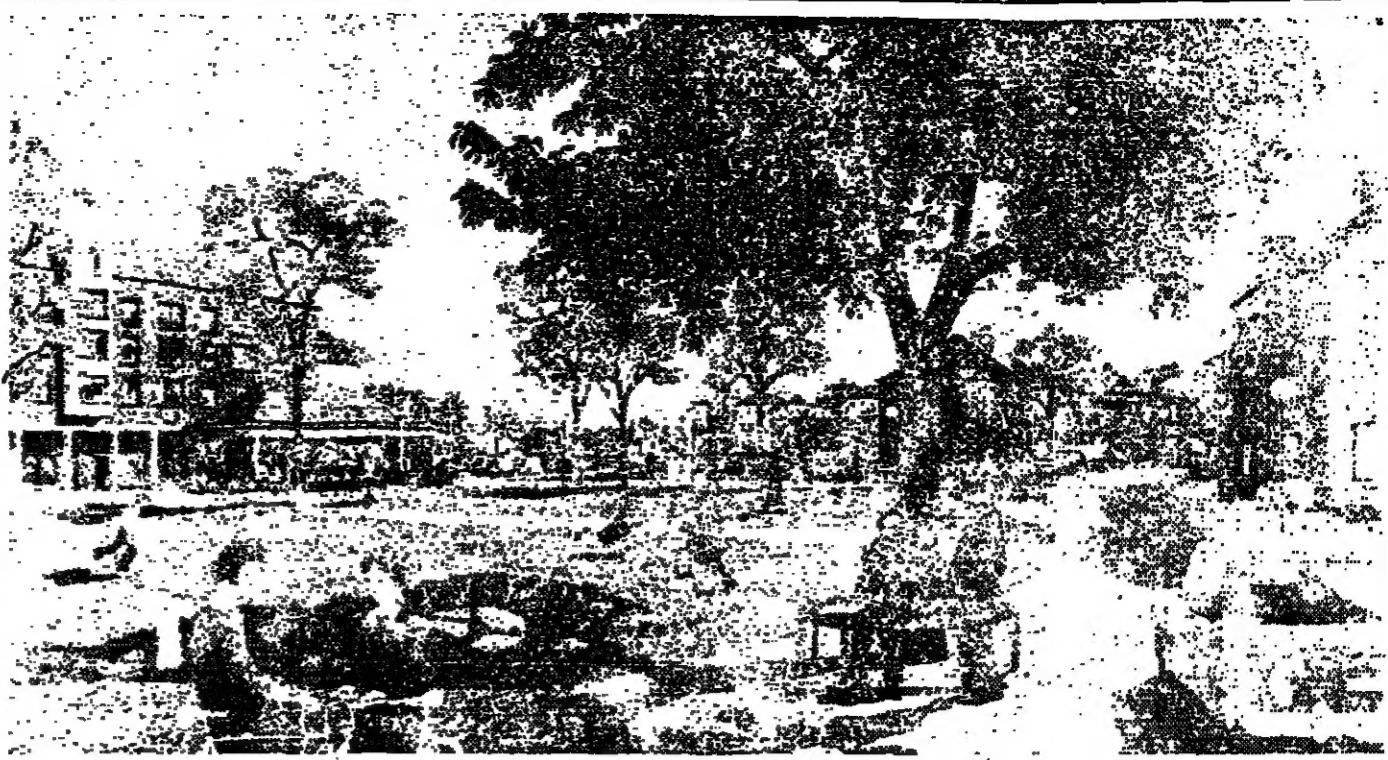
## Police leader scorns 'pantomime critics'

The protests that greeted the report of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure were welcomed last night by Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation.

He said Sir Cyril Philips, chairman of the commission, and his colleagues were to be congratulated. "I am even more sure that they have done a good job because of the howls of protest that went up last Thursday when the report was published," he told federation members in Bournemouth.

He described the report's critics as "members of the longest-running pantomime in theatrical history".

Mr Jardine added: "Michael Meacher (Labour MP for Oldham, West), the demon king from 'Deaths in Custody', led the attack, and from the National Council of Civil Liberties came that well-known comedy pair, Patricia Hewitt and Harriet Harman, the babes in the wood who would immediately spring to the defence of the robbers, and the full sup-



A village green for Londoners, complete with public house, is at the heart of the Lysander Estates' scheme for the former Surrey docks, chosen by Southwark council planners.

## Confusion at inquiry into M23

By Craig Seton

Confusion about the scope of the public inquiry concerning the abandoned M23 section of the M23 emerged yesterday, when Air Marshal Sir Michael Giddings, the inquiry inspector, said he might recommend Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, to review his decision.

Mr Fowler announced last May that the extension, from Hooley in Surrey to Mitcham in south London, was to be scrapped.

Mr Michael Howard, representing the Department of Transport, said yesterday that Mr Fowler had made up his mind not to construct the extension and that decision was not before the inquiry.

Mr Howard, speaking on the second day of the inquiry, at Redhill, Surrey, insisted that the inquiry was concerned only with the Secretary of State's decision to revoke his authority to construct the Hooley-Mitcham section of the route.

In a ruling on the scope of the inquiry, the inspector said it would be in order for objects to argue that the need for road improvements in the area was such that the revocation of the Secretary of State's authority could lead to a potential transference of blight in the general area.

He said he did not intend to make a recommendation whether the M23 extension should be restored or not, but he had decided that the consequences of transference of blight were such that it would be unwise for the authority to be revoked. The Secretary of State might have to review his original decision.

The inquiry continues today.

In brief  
Peter Sutcliffe remanded again

Peter William Sutcliffe, aged 35, a lorry driver, of Garden Lane, Heaton, Bradford, was further remanded in custody until tomorrow week by magistrates at Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, yesterday, charged with murdering Miss Jacqueline Hill, a Leeds University student.

He has also been charged with stealing two vehicle registration number plates valued at 50p. He did not appear in court.

## £756,325 pools win for shopkeeper

A shopkeeper won £756,325 on Littlewoods' pools yesterday. Mrs Elaine Dawes, aged 36, who is married and has two children, had the maximum 23 points after a stake of £7.5p. She lives above the general store she runs in Bramley Park Road, Handsworth, Sheffield.

## Neurologist's suicide

A verdict of suicide was recorded at the inquest in Oxford yesterday on Dr Ritchie Russell, aged 77, the neurologist, who was found dead at his home in Oxford with a cable plugged in at the electricity main and wired to his arm. He could not stand the thought of growing old, it was stated.

## Cattle man remanded

Douglas Clay, aged 57, a cattle dealer, of Eyehurst Farm, Kingswood, Surrey, was remanded again on bail of £100,000 until February 25 by magistrates at Epsom, Surrey, yesterday, accused of fraudulently obtaining Ministry of Agriculture certificates to enable cattle and sheep to be exported.

## Jail allegations

Mr Mark Hughes, Labour MP for Durham, is to table a question in the Commons asking the Home Office to comment on allegations that troops on duty at Frankland prison, Durham, let the jail become a "black market paradise" with drink and tobacco.

## Boy dies as wall caves in

Mark Griffiths, aged 10, of 197, was killed yesterday when Maerdy, Rhonda, Mid Glamorgan, was killed when the wall of a school building collapsed. Another boy was rescued from the rubble.

## Red tape is raising a cloud over Home Office's authorized nuclear shelters

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office is to launch its approved designs for nuclear shelters on Wednesday, but they are likely to fall foul of building regulations.

Mr Victor Bunting, who is on the council of the 50-member Federation of Nuclear Shelter Consultants and Contractors, said yesterday that three local authorities had said the shelters must be treated like a habitable room. That meant that they must have windows.

Croft and Lewis Ltd, of London, has been unable to build a single shelter, although it has had more than 80 inquiries, because of the intransigence of local authorities and the Department of the Environment, according to *National Builder*, a journal of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

The Home Office-approved designs do not have windows. There are five types; the simplest can be erected above shallow trenches and covered with earth.

For use indoors, a shelter, like a table made from reinforced steel, can be bought in kit form for between £500 and £800, with bricks likely to cost a further £300.

## £250,000 award for road crash victim

A man who suffered what were described as horrific injuries in a road accident is to receive £250,000 damages and costs from an insurance company.

Mr Thomas James Pimblett, aged 46, of Eryrys, near Mold, Clwyd, father of three children, was on his way to work at the Shell Oil Company in Eilemmer Port when his motor cycle and a van collided at a junction in the village of Altham.

The van driver, Donald Morris, of Conway Avenue, Buckley, Clwyd, was later convicted of careless driving.

Liability for the accident in August, 1977, was admitted by Mr Morris's advisers in the High Court, sitting in Mold yesterday. The damages were agreed.

Best of all is a reinforced concrete shelter for up to 12 people, which is permanent, costing between £5,000 and £10,000.

The simplest is expected to remain intact after a one megaton bomb has exploded seven miles away; the most expensive is designed to withstand one closer than two miles.

Presumably there will be no windows in two disused railway tunnels near Shepton Mallet, Somerset, which the London-based Stronghold Engineering and Construction Company plans to convert into big fall-out shelters. It has been offered 46 runnels by British Rail and has had applications for some of the 220 places at Shepton Mallet from local people.

Meanwhile, the Department of the Environment is doing its best to clear up the difficulty. Although a letter to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council concludes that building regulations apply to shelters, it says the minister would be prepared to consider dispensing with the requirements.

And the department has sent out a consultation letter with the intention that shelters be exempt from the regulations. Replies are due by January 30 and the minister will decide.

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## Colour magazine proposed for 'Sunday Express'

By David Hewson  
Express Newspapers are planning to add a colour supplement to the *Sunday Express* from the middle of next April, creating the largest circulation Sunday colour supplement in the country.

The magazine would bring the number of national Sunday colour supplements to four. The *Sunday Times*, *The Observer*, and *The Sunday Telegraph* produce colour magazines.

Mr Jocelyn Stevens, deputy chairman and managing director of Express Newspapers, was quoted in the trade magazine *Marketing Week* yesterday as saying that he was very optimistic that the magazine will appear.

The group is negotiating with the three colour printers who could handle the three million

## 'Kiss and fly' airline joins fares battle

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Air Florida, the American airline that recently offered free flights in exchange for a kiss, is to begin flying daily scheduled services between Gatwick and Miami from April 4, Mr Eli Timoner, its president, said in London yesterday.

But the calm of the second London airport will not be upset by crowds of British holidaymakers rushing the check-in desks with tips puckered, although Mr Timoner did claim that his fares would be the lowest on the route, lower even than Sir Freddie Laker's fares.

Air Florida's first-class fares from London will be £320 single in the low season and £399 in the high season. Single economy-class tickets will cost £99 low season and £119 high season.

Mr Timoner said this was £31 and £41 cheaper than economy fares on Laker, and £118 and £141 cheaper than Pan American and British Airways. Sir Freddie was out of his office yesterday, but a member of his staff commented: "We will have a good look at Air Florida's proposals and then take appropriate action to repel boarders".

Laker, he said, is thinking of introducing a first-class cabin, to be called Skytrain Pullman, on its London-Miami services.

Laker Airways applied to the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday to operate a scheduled service between Britain and Australia. British Caledonian is seeking similar permission, and the case will be heard by the authority on February 2.

Fares proposed by Laker are: £490 single Pullman-class to Sydney and Melbourne (compared with £1,439 first-class single by British Airways and Qantas) and £482 to Perth (£1,335).

Economy single fares would be £399 (compared with £763) and £366 (£705), excursion return £560 (£637) and £495 (£604), and single walk-on fare (which BA and Qantas do not offer) £265 and £22.

British Caledonian said that its proposed single fares to Australia were: to Perth, sky-lounger £1,020, first class £820, economy £200, late purchase £175; to Melbourne, Brisbane or Adelaide, sky-lounger £1,100, first class £900, economy £230, late purchase £199. The airline would be ready to start the service next year and proposed to introduce 500-seater jumbo jets a year later.

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WEST EUROPE



Mr. Dalsager: Dedicated to European ideal.

Mr Dalsager dedicated to Europe

Mr Poul Dalsager, aged 51, the Danish Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, who has been named as Denmark's new EEC Commissioner, replaced last week Mr Finn Gundelach, who died suddenly yesterday, as his country's EEC Commissioner in Brussels.

The choice of Mr Dalsager reflects the Danes' strong desire to retain control of agriculture, which consumes some 70 per cent of the EEC budget and is of vital importance to the Danish economy. It is regarded as one of the key jobs in the Commission.

If he is given the agricultural portfolio, Mr Dalsager, aged 51, will be plunged at once into the preparation of the Commission's proposals on EEC farm prices, which have to be fixed each spring in negotiation with member states.

The permanent allocation of the agriculture and fisheries responsibilities previously exercised by Mr Gundelach is expected to be decided next week by the European Commission after Mr Dalsager's appointment has been formally endorsed by other member states.

In the meantime, it has been decided that Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the Commission, should himself assume temporary responsibility for agriculture, and fisheries should be entrusted, again on an interim basis, to Mr George

Danes nominate their Agriculture Minister for Commission post

From Michael Hornsby Strasbourg, Jan 14

Mr Poul Dalsager, the Danish Minister of Agriculture, was today nominated by his Government to replace Mr Finn Gundelach, who died suddenly yesterday, as his country's EEC Commissioner in Brussels.

The choice of Mr Dalsager reflects the Danes' strong desire to retain control of agriculture, which consumes some 70 per cent of the EEC budget and is of vital importance to the Danish economy. It is regarded as one of the key jobs in the Commission.

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EEC balm for the British

From David Wood Strasbourg, Jan 14

With the six-monthly alternation among the Ten of the presidency of the Council of Ministers, Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Foreign Office will carefully study one particular passage in the first statement of intentions made today by Mr Christoph van Klauw, the Dutch Foreign Minister, whom Lord Carrington will succeed as President on July 1.

She knows that at six-month intervals one country inherits the work of its alphabetic predecessor in the presidency.

Hence London's more than passing interest in Mr van der

Eight Corsicans fail to answer kidnap charge

From Ian Murray Paris, Jan 14

Only nine of the 17 Corsican autonomists facing kidnapping charges appeared when their case opened here before the Court of State Security this afternoon.

Of the missing eight, two had failed to surrender to bail. Two held in prison had refused to leave their cells, and four, who have been on hunger strike in prison for more than nine weeks, were judged to be medically unfit to travel to the court.

Two others, who had been on hunger strike all that time, but who were allowed to attend the court, appeared last. The other defendants and part of the audience rose at a sign of respect.

They were obviously very weak and the court was asked by the defence whether it really believed they were in a state to defend themselves with sufficient force. M Claude Allaer, the court president, promised that he would respect the code of silence in deciding on their fitness.

After formal questioning to establish identities, the hearing was adjourned for legal argument on the attitude which the defendants who were not present.

The lawyer for the two who had not surrendered to bail produced a medical certificate saying they were unfit to travel from Corsica. Lawyers for the two who had refused to leave their cells argued that force should not be used against them. Lawyers for the four judged unfit to attend argued against the ethics of trying their clients in their absence.

In Ajaccio today several thousand people joined a demonstration in support of the men on trial.

A young woman was in hospital in Aix-en-Provence today with head injuries received in one of three bomb attacks made in the town during the night. Responsibility for the bombing, which caused nearly a million francs (about £100,000) damage and its coherence, by a militant Corsican National Liberation Front.

French agree timetable for presidential elections

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Jan 14

The timetable for the presidential elections was agreed by the Cabinet today. All candidates who wish to stand will have to be declared by April 7 and approved by April 10 if they are to take part in the first round on April 26. The second and final round will be on May 10.

In a statement to mark the approval of the timetable, President Giscard d'Estaing said that "the approach of the presidential election is something presented or felt as a test. I affirm that it is, on the contrary, a chance for France."

"It is a chance for the democratic life of France since it underlines the fact that the French people are going to exercise that too rare privilege in the world of designating themselves, in complete freedom, the head of state."

"It is a chance for the

Barre remark harms Strasbourg hopes

From Our Own Correspondent Strasbourg, Jan 14

France's hopes of retaining Strasbourg as the main site of the European Parliament may have been seriously damaged by contemptuous remarks directed at the Parliament by M Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister.

He was quoted by Agence France-Presse, the French news agency, as having declared that "what European parliamentarians say is of no interest to the French Government". The remark was made in reference to the dispute between France and the European Parliament over the legality of the EEC budget adopted last December.

There were angry reactions today from members of the Parliament. Mr James Scott-

Terrorists say judge to be freed

From John Earle Rome, Jan 14

The Red Brigades today announced that they were freeing Judge Giovanni D'Urso, kidnapped by them in Rome on December 12, as they had obtained their objective.

The announcement came near the end of a four-day leaflet, "communique number 10", found at lunchtime in a rubbish bin in front of the Rome Opera House. Soon afterwards rumour spread that he had been released at a building site on the western outskirts of the city and taken to a hospital. This was denied by the Government.

Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the Prime Minister, expressed uncertainty this evening whether the communique announcing that Dr D'Urso would be freed was genuine. "We hope, however, that it will be confirmed by fact," he told Parliament. Agence France-Presse reports.

The leaflet said "The Hangman D'Urso" would be let go, shortly before reiterating the Red Brigades' slogan: "Destruction of all prisons and liberation of all proletarian prisoners."

The "political and material objectives, set in the campaign of attack initiated with D'Urso, have been fully achieved."

"The movement of the proletarian prisoners, the revolutionary movement, the Red Brigades have obtained a great victory. In consideration of all that, proletarian justice: communique of an act of magnanimity. The sentence of death is suspended and the prisoner D'Urso is being set free."

The Red Brigades communique came after a letter was found yesterday from the judge, who appealed for the press to heed the Red Brigades' demands for the views of their prisoners in maximum-security jails to be published in the national press.

Two newspapers, *Il Messaggero* and *Il Secolo XIX*, the largest circulations respectively in Rome and Genoa, responded today by publishing the texts of proclamations from inmates of the jails of Pavia in Apulia and Palmi in Calabria.

Leading article, page 15

Norwegian police evict power site protesters

From Karen Sorenson Oslo, Norway, Jan 14

Six hundred Norwegian police today forcibly removed 153 demonstrators from the banks of the Alta river in the far north of the country, leaving nearly 300 still there.

Today's police action is the culmination of a 10-year debate in Norway over who owns and controls the land, water and other resources in an area which the indigenous people of Scandinavia, the Sami, claim as their own.

The Norwegian Government intends to develop a hydro-electric scheme on the Alta river but the Sami object. Not only would such a project destroy the livelihoods of the reindeer-herding and fishing farmer, they claim, but also the Sami demand in principle to make the decision in their traditional area.

The Norwegian Sami have been joined by Sami from both Sweden and Finland, as well as by hundreds of Norwegians. In spite of temperatures ranging into the minus-30°C during the past 10 days, hundreds of people have gathered at Stilla, the site where construction was to begin today.

Yesterday and today, there have been less demonstrations throughout Scandinavia against the Norwegian Government's northern and Sami policies.

OVERSEAS



Charlene Taren tries to free herself after falling through ice on a park lake in Fort Collins, Colorado, while attempting to rescue her dog. Firemen rescued both dog and owner.

UN calls on S Africa for second thoughts

From Our Southern Africa Correspondent Geneva, Jan 14

The failed United Nations conference on Namibia ended in Geneva today with an appeal by Mr Brian Urquhart, the senior United Nations official who chaired the meeting, to South Africa and the internal parties in Namibia (South West Africa) to reconsider their position on the implementation of the proposed settlement plan for the territory.

Mr Urquhart said the United Nations would not relax its efforts to achieve an internationally acceptable settlement.

Mr Sam Nujoma, president of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo), reaffirmed his organization's support for the United Nations settlement plan.

He called, however, for an intensification of the guerrilla war and for the introduction of comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa.

The sanctions call was also supported by Mr Eddison Zvobgo, the Zimbabwe Minister of Local Government, who was speaking on behalf of the British-Benedictine monk, Benedictine, and the Organization of African Unity which attended the conference as observers.

Support for alliance: Mr R. F. Foreign Minister, expressed support of the stand taken by the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance at the Geneva talks in an airport-press conference here today (Eric Marsden writes from Johannesburg).

Mr Mudge turns out to be the only winner in Geneva

From Nicholas Ashford Geneva, Jan 14

"The Namibian settlement exercise is now dead. Despite the failure of this conference, we believe that doors have still been left open," Mr Richard Mudge, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said shortly before leaving Geneva at the end of the United Nations conference on Namibia (South West Africa).

Mr Mudge noted that the main protagonists—the South Africans, the territory's internal parties, and the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo)—still claimed that they supported the United Nations settlement plan for the territory. What was therefore necessary, he said, was to reflect on "how best to move ahead from here."

But if the United Nations initiative is not actually dead, it has been dealt a stunning blow by the refusal of the South African-led delegations to agree to a firm date for a ceasefire in the guerrilla war waged by Swapo against South African troops in Northern Namibia.

The Western powers, the black African representatives, and the United Nations had all come to Geneva in the belief that the South African refusal to accept a ceasefire would be a setback for the conference. But the South African refusal to accept a ceasefire was a setback for the conference.

Yet the conference turned out to be merely an elaborate propaganda exercise to promote the cause of the internal parties, backed up by demands that the United Nations must first demonstrate its impartiality before South Africa and the internal parties would even consider taking part in a United Nations supervised election.

From the point of view of the South African-led delegations, the conference was a success, as the internal parties were able to present themselves in a United Nations forum (even though they were not recognized as such) without having to concede anything in return.

On the other hand, the conference has been an unmitigated disaster for the Western powers which have invested immense diplomatic effort during the past three years in an attempt to resolve the Namibian question. Their credibility is in tatters and they are now confronted with renewed calls at the United Nations for sanctions against South Africa—which was just what the settlement initiative was designed to prevent.

What went wrong? First, the determination of South Africa to promote the cause of the internal parties, particularly the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, was underestimated. South Africa recognized that the alliance, with its present label of being a "staunch party," stood little chance of winning an election against Swapo.

Mr Dirk Mudge, the Alliance's leader, admitted as much in private conversations with black African observers. He told one of them that he had no real quibble with either the United Nations plan or with the impartiality of the conference. He was offered by the United Nations at the weekend, in an attempt to break the conference deadlock. He said he would need at least 18 months

South Africa to fingerprint all its citizens

From Our Correspondent Johannesburg, Jan 14

South Africa is to introduce legislation to provide a uniform identity document with the bearer's fingerprints for all its citizens. Meanwhile, applicants for renewal of existing documents, endorsements or new documents will be required to have fingerprints taken.

Announcing the Bill in Cape Town today, Mr Chris Heitsch, Minister of Internal Affairs, said fingerprinting had been made necessary by the "total onslaught" on the republic. The measure would prevent forgery of identity documents and limit "the increasing attempts to infiltrate strategic installations and national key positions with a view to espionage and/or sabotage."

The legislation would not alter the existing "pass" laws for blacks. The fingerprint register would be kept by the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Criminal Bureau would not have access.

Journalists attack ban on black newspapers

From Eric Marsden Johannesburg, Jan 14

Journalists' criticism on press freedom in South Africa could result in an escalating conflict between blacks and whites, journalists said today.

In a memorandum to the Steyn Commission of Inquiry into the Press, which resumed its sittings in Johannesburg, the South African Society of Journalists criticized the banning of black newspapers and silencing of black journalists.

The society, which has a majority of white members, said that dissatisfied blacks were becoming more insistent that their voices must be heard. This was shown by the number of strikes and disturbances, and the number of blacks who had left the country for "military training" since 1976.

Pleading for continued two-way communication between blacks and whites, the memorandum said: "If we shut off the tap of communication in one direction, conflict will escalate, not diminish."

South Africa had an inadequate force of black journalists to express their community's aspirations and frustrations. There was a white journalist for every 1,171 white South Africans, but there was only one black journalist for 51,961 blacks. This was blamed on inadequate education and training.

Banning black newspapers or reporting of speeches by leaders would not make black feelings go away.

The memorandum said that unless black opinion was freely expressed the whole South African community would not be able to identify and respond to the needs and demands of the times.

It cited as justification the reaction of Rhodesia whites to the election victory of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, which had not been foreseen by the white community and military intelligence because of restrictions on a free flow of information.

Sotheby's deny Russian accusations of dishonesty over sale of valuable sixteenth-century icon

From Michael Binyon Moscow, Jan 14

A Soviet newspaper today accused Sotheby's of dishonesty over the sale of a valuable Russian icon stolen from its Moscow owner over five years ago.

Taking up a case that has highlighted the Russians' concern over the smuggling to the West of icons and their subsequent sale by galleries and auction houses, the weekly newspaper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* today published an interview with a member of Sotheby's concerning the sale in 1979 of a sixteenth-century processional icon.

The paper said the double-sided icon, "The Virgin and Nikolai the Miracle-Worker" was stolen from the home of Mr M. P. Kudryatsev. The matter was referred to Interpol.

Mr Stuart was reported as replying that there was no indication in any book that the icon had been stolen. He refused to say who had brought in the work for auction on the ground that Sotheby's did not disclose national exhibition. Why had Mr Stuart not noticed that the vendor was not the same as the owner?

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New style of Mugabe leadership faces test

From Stephen Taylor Salisbury, Jan 14

A meeting scheduled to be held here on Saturday will resolve whether Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, has finally stamped his authority on the country's coalition Government and gained for his party control of all main offices of power.

The meeting of the Central Committee of the minority Patriotic Front party, will consider a response to the Cabinet reshuffle announced last week by Mr Mugabe that moved Mr Joshua Nkomo, the party's leader, from the key post of Minister of Home Affairs, offering the party the sweetener of an additional Cabinet seat and a deputy ministry. If Mr Nkomo and the Central Committee reject the Cabinet package it would plunge Zimbabwe into a political crisis with perilous implications.

The reshuffle, the first since independence last year, marked the emergence of a new style of leadership by Mr Mugabe. In dismissing Mr Edgar Tekere, the intertempore former Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, and demoting Mr Nkomo, his main political rival, Mr Mugabe chose to govern with boldness where previously he had opted for caution.

The risks were only too apparent. Mr Tekere is Secretary-General of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party and has wide support in the rank and file. Many observers believed that given his delicate handling of contentious matters in the past—that Mr Mugabe would not dare to move against him after he was acquitted of the murder of a farmer last month.

The decision to deprive Mr Nkomo of his control of the police and the Ministry of Public Service was potentially even more dangerous. There have been numerous incidents involving the estimated 35,000 Zanu guerrillas loyal to Mr Mugabe and the 20,000 Zipra force which follows Mr Nkomo.

The anger felt by Zipra over the latest reshuffle of Mr Nkomo was indicated earlier this week by shooting incidents at Chitungwiza, near Salisbury, in which seven people were injured. In one incident a grenade was thrown at an Army patrol.

The reshuffle was also received with bitter resentment by Patriotic Front officials. Mr Mugabe had said that once he was perceived as the country's most important nationalist leader have been political rivals since the 1960s but Mr Mugabe's ascendancy has been established in the past year and Mr Nkomo's aides believe that Mr Mugabe is now using his position to humiliate their leader.

An outraged Mr Nkomo told the press: "I do not see any way to accepting this."

Yet there are indications despite the rhetoric that Mr Mugabe has gambled successfully. Mr Tekere has apparently gone quietly and is even said to be pleased that he no longer has the responsibility of ministerial office.

Informed sources believe that Mr Nkomo, lacking an adequate power base and external support, will swallow his pride and accept the Cabinet package. They believe that, while he still hopes for power and prestige, he will not jeopardize the fruits of the struggle for the country by withdrawing from the coalition.

Front victory: The Rhodesia Front candidate last night won a narrow election victory over his independent opponent in a white by-election for the constituency of Highlands in Salisbury.

Mr James Thross won 1,497 votes against 1,257 registered to Dr Timothy Stamps on a margin of 240 votes despite an election address by Ian Smith, President of the Rhodesia Front and former Prime Minister.

It is well known in British art circles that many icons were smuggled out of Russia during the 1960s and 1970s with the active connivance of dealers and auction houses in the West. It had not come directly to have been brought out by diplomats.

Smuggling is not considered particularly unethical in the art trade, whereas theft is taken seriously. Mr Stuart told me yesterday he keeps a file on icons known to be stolen and has been instrumental in the past in returning works to their true owners.

None of the icons stolen from Mr Kudryatsev are on his file, since their theft had not been reported to him. He added that he would like more cooperation from Moscow.



**May God lead for success**



## OVERSEAS

India's legal system 'is on the verge of collapse'

## Thousands condemned to hopeless years in prison awaiting trial

From Trevor Fishlock  
Delhi, Jan 14

The case of four boys who have spent half their lives in jail, fettered and officially forgotten, is only one small indicator of the desperate state of the administration of justice in India.

A report that three more men have been deliberately blinded while in custody, and the case of 31 blinded prisoners now being heard in the Supreme Court here, have added to a deepening sense of crisis.

What are we coming to in this country? The Prime Minister, asked in Parliament, on hearing that suspected criminals in the state of Bihar had been blinded in police stations with wearing needles, bicycle spokes and acid.

The answer to her question lies in the quality of the police and the courts. The performance of both services is bad and deteriorating.

Our legal system is on the verge of collapse, living on borrowed time. Mr Justice Bhagwati, of the Supreme Court, says.

Many Indians were shocked by a report two weeks ago exposing the plight of tens of thousands of people held in custody awaiting trial, known here as "undertrials".

More than half the people in India's 1,200 jails are undertrials, and the report showed that many had languished for years with little immediate prospect of being tried. Prisoners had been waiting in thousands for much longer than the maximum sentence for the offence of which they were accused.

Others were held for years because they were too poor to raise bail. And there were still others in jail not because they were criminals but because the authorities wanted to be sure they could produce them if ever a particular case came to trial.

Sheer weight of numbers, confusion, incompetence and a harassed, bureaucratic con-

demned thousands to hopeless years in prison.

Action by Mrs Kapila Hingorani, a Delhi barrister, led the Supreme Court to decide that people who had spent more time in jail than the maximum sentence for their alleged crimes should be freed. People on bailable offences were also released. In all, more than 30,000 people were set free.

But that progress was not maintained. Many magistrates still fail to tell accused people of their rights under the law, especially the poor and illiterate. It is now estimated that 100,000 people are in prison with little chance of an early trial.

Most are in jails in the heavily populated states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The Supreme Court has asked the Bihar Government for details of people held, a request prompted by the recent case of the four boys arrested about eight years ago, when they were about 10. They have appeared in court only once and have never been tried.

The Supreme Court judges said: "This is one more instance of the callousness and indifference of the judicial system to undertrials. They are easily forgotten and become mere ticked numbers."

In her Delhi office, Mrs Hingorani has fat yellow files containing lists of thousands of people in jail. "We have to go through them painstakingly to see how many are entitled to be released. It is a huge job. We started on the scandal of the undertrials two years ago, but there is still a long way to go. It is a huge task."

Mrs Hingorani is also fighting, at her own expense, the case of the men blinded by police at Bhagalpur in Bihar. Even in society fairly hardened to stories of police brutality the

blindings at Bhagalpur came as a shock.

More than anything else in recent times, the blindings are an important illustration of the attitudes of police, public and politicians.

Police in many parts of India are under pressure to deal with the bandits and thieves who prey on ordinary people. It is not easy for them. Their pay and training are inadequate, their intellectual and material resources are stretched, and their efficiency is hampered by meddling politicians.

It is harder in India than in most places for police to work efficiently without resort to extra-legal methods. On the whole, people do not like the police. They fear rather than respect them and they are generally unwilling to risk their time and perhaps their safety in going to court to give evidence.

The need for results drives many policemen to illegal (though, in their view, efficient) methods. Bandits are not in "encounters" and from time to time, other troublemakers are eradicated in the same way and are branded, after the event, as desperate criminals.

Confessions extracted with the aid of canes and the absence of genuine witnesses can be overcome by the employment of people blackmailed or pressured to provide evidence.

Some people, especially in rural India, readily take the law into their own hands. Many a suspected criminal has been beaten to death by outraged villagers and recently a group of men suspected of theft were stoned to death.

So it is interesting, although not surprising, that many people in Bhagalpur have been demonstrating their support for policemen who blinded men in their custody. There is some fury over the Government's decision to award the blinded men £800 each.

Ever since his life consisted of more than running after the dinner and ensuring the survival of his type, man has sought to alter the shape of the body donated to him by God, or inherited by him via an age, depending on your point of view. To this end he has employed means uncomfortable, downright painful, means physical, cosmetic and sartorial. He has added and subtracted to and from his frame, or at any rate its effect on the observer, he has squeezed and stretched, practically every bit there is to squeeze and stretch and his clothing has proffered or concealed according to need.

Originally this need was almost entirely geared to attracting the opposite sex. Not only has man evolved without any of the charming and provocative natural attributes still available to those left behind in the evolutionary scramble—no peacock tail, no rainbow-hued scales—but he is also one of the very few species in which there is no close season for mating. Poor old man has to be attractive all the time.

Fortunately his cunning in eating an enormously varied diet, much of it free, and his adaptation to climates disparate which spread out the population, also provided him with the leisure time to pursue an art which he quickly saw was of the necessity; adding allure by changing his shape.

I am not quite sure at what stage self-gratification came into the picture, though I would suppose at times when there seemed to be enough persons to go round and so everybody got a breathing space from just trying to nab anything of the opposite sex which showed whenever it was, by now man was hooked on chic and was ready to embark on the third phase of dressing himself up, which was to slot himself into his peer group.

How these three objectives have been attained over the ages is debatable, of course, but it is clear that the toga might have produced a great power-turn-around around the Mediterranean, but was hardly practicable for the North Pole.

Nothing has changed, and this is why I have to say that it is sad to see the British Medical Association behaving like a bunch of beheaded chickens, confronted with the undoubted malpractices now rampant in the business of cosmetic surgery in this country. If only the medical profession could bring itself to shed the ghost of John Knox and the time tradition that for anyone to wish to be more attractive to the opposite sex, themselves or their peer group is inherently wicked and sinful.

If only our generally marvellous and overworked doctors could take time out to study the changing patterns in society, they could have seen this whole bizarre case as a side effect of a telling problem which was going to come with the availability of contraceptive pills and abortion on demand.

The unenlightened attitude adopted has led in both cases to severe abuse of the practice and enormous danger to patients—or, better, to their customers' safety so many hands into which they fell were as qualified to serve them with an operation as with a yard of lace. However much the elite may dislike the idea, it is the mass of society which changes a vogue, and since taste always in the end it also follows that if you attempt to

Prudence Glynn

## But what if your face really doesn't fit?



The face that did fit; Barbara Goalen photographed by John French, 1953.

staunch a demand which is overbearing or to force it through channels which are too narrow in their attitudes the flood runs round the side and into the abortion parlour and the cosmetic cowboy clinic.

Of course it is admirable for the BMA to insist that everyone who wants a nose job now consult their GP for referral to a reputable surgeon but I think that it is also hopelessly naive, and may indeed have precisely the opposite effect in that women, who outnumber men by six to one as patients, who would have gone via word of mouth to a top-class man will now because he could face being struck off unless she is referred by her GP, resort to less competent hands.

When I say that it is naive, that is just what I do mean, for the attitude of the BMA takes little or no account of the sort of customer likely to go in search of cosmetic surgery. Think back to the girl who most needed advice on contraception and abortion and was equally counselled, from the highest motives, to consult her GP, most likely a family one. Lovely for coughs and colds, known her since childhood. But won't he tell Mum that she wants to go on the Pill? And as for an abortion, he'll be a bit of a shock to her. So the inevitable happened. "Well, I do know of this place where you can get it done, only charge you 100 quid" (and expose you to a good chance of septicaemia) All over Britain teenage girls were weeping behind the filling cabinets with post-abortion depression or being sick at the bus stop.

It took the intervention of humane and enlightened societies such as the Marie Stopes foundation or the Family Planning Association to recognize that the tide in sexual activity was irreversible, that the girls were, however dimly, aware that they had a right to a new control over their bodies and

and what is needed is a greater recognition of his services in modern society and a lesser suspicion that he is Dr Faustus.

This is what you get when subjects are brought out of the shadows of shame and secrecy and just accepted as a legitimate desire.

Mind you, this looking younger business can be carried too far when you get to the stage when you do not want to make your companion laugh in case something comes unstitched and when the knife marks are worn as proudly as duelling scars.

While the Europeans tend to cosmetic surgery from sexual vanity, one cannot help feeling that in the United States without the aeons of philosophy stored this side of the Atlantic to fall back on against the terrors of old age and death it is the youth bit which has them.

What I term the sarcophagus set really are quite alarming to see, but quite easy to understand. Come the holocaust, only the fertile will be selected to board the Bardsley Noah's Ark and get whisked to safety in space, there to found a new dynasty.

After all, in the panic of the moment and a pretty Zandra Rhodes chiffon and a poor light one might just be able to nip on board and then it is not in the nature of Batsheva captains to throw you out into mid-air.

For myself, I view with equanimity the fact that I shall be left behind. Receding, possibly, depending when all this happens, but I shall have missed the last boarding shuttle. Anyway I simply cannot think of anything more awful than having to live among and, worse, help to perpetuate a race of cringing bodes. Three days of their conversation would drive me insane.

Interesting though, that in depicting the future, designers for the galaxy are still hung up with man's desire to change his natural shape. Everyone it seems will be walking about in tight belted tunics, boots to enhance the manly calves, and size 38B cast iron brassieres.

But back to cosmetic surgery and the horns of the dilemma upon which is perched the BMA: to recognize a demand which is not essential but social and is thus suspect to many ethical minds, and to the same time to be sure there is maximum protection from exploitation and incompetence for those most at risk.

I suggest that this should consist not of insisting that patients go via their GP. Frankly, those most at risk are the least likely to follow such a course. Nor should it consist of threats to its members, which again can only drive the subject underground, as it did when abortion was illegal. If the BMA really wants to help why does it not itself put together a network of sympathetic advisers offering confidentiality and even anonymity, well advertised in everything from this newspaper to the public loo at Euston and backed by their superb authority and income parable standards.

"Beauty provoketh thieves sooner than gold," wrote Shakespeare. Right as usual, except that now it looks as if to provoke the two together.

## MPs uneasy at Ottawa's constitution

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, and his Government were clearly warned by Westminster MPs last night that they could not expect Parliament to rubber-stamp proposals for the revised Canadian constitution in their present form.

The misgivings were expressed at a private meeting of the all-party committee on the Canadian constitution, after Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, the Foreign Office minister who will be responsible for the legislation when it comes before the Commons, had given them the Government's view.

On a day when there were many other meetings, 56 MPs turned out and half of them spoke. While acknowledging that the expected request from Canada would be exceptional, Sir Ian took the line that, following precedent, the proposal for the patriation of the Canadian constitution, with its associated decision that the British Parliament should be passed by the British Parliament.

Of those MPs who spoke, only one accepted that the Westminster Parliament should approve whatever came from Ottawa on the ground of preserving good relations between the two countries.

Others said they were worried that the United Kingdom would be asked to endorse a package which was opposed by six of the 10 provincial governments, who believed that the British Parliament still had a trusteeship function to fulfil under Section 7 of the Statute of Westminster.

One Labour MP, a senior frontbencher, said that Mr Trudeau was asking the British Parliament to resume the role of a colonial power. Several favoured a simple measure to patriate the constitution to Canada, then leaving it to the Canadians to sort out their differences.

## Peru unions to call general strike today

From Michael Smith

Lima, Jan 14

The six-month-old Government of President Fernando Belaúnde is threatened with the first signs of social unrest. All the country's big unions have set tomorrow as the date for a 24-hour national general strike. It has the backing of the two opposition groups, the centre-left Apra party and the Marxist United Left coalition.

The strike is in protest against a series of economic measures pushed through by Señor Manuel Ulloa, the Prime Minister and Finance Minister, and the central bank at the beginning of January. Subsidies for basic foodstuffs were almost completely eliminated, and prices were up: milk 54 to 67 per cent, rice 21 per cent, sugar 65 per cent, wheat-based products 50 per cent, cooking oil 94 per cent, and petrol 29 per cent.

Interest rates were also increased almost to the level of inflation. Interest on savings deposits was set at about 51 per cent a year—up from about 35 per cent—and commercial loans at about 56 per cent a year, compared with about 38 per cent.

Inflation during 1980 was 60.2 per cent—the third year in a row above 50 per cent.

The unions are demanding a 60 per cent pay increase in place of the 12 per cent increase offered by the Government, a price freeze on basic foodstuffs and petrol and a change in the Government's economic programme.

The United Left coalition went even further and asked for the resignation of Señor Ulloa and Señor Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, the Energy Minister. Señor Alfonso Grados, the Labour Minister said: "The Government's not going to make an about-face on any of the demands."

The Belaúnde Administration last year lowered tariff barriers to an average of 35 per cent, though some tariffs were cut in half. The aim was to make local industry more competitive but it elicited a storm of protest from Peruvian industrialists.

Imports have begun to flood the market at double the monthly rate a year ago. At Christmas the streets of the Lima suburbs were filled with stalls selling roller skates and whisky, much of it contraband.

## Knesset lifts immunity of accused minister

From Our Correspondent

Tel Aviv, Jan 14

The Knesset voted this afternoon, by 63 to 33, with five abstentions, to lift the parliamentary immunity of Mr M. Aharon Abuhazzeira, the Minister for Religious Affairs, who is charged with bribery.

Mr Abuhazzeira will now face trial in the district court in Jerusalem on charges that he accepted kickbacks out of inflated ministry allocations to religious educational institutions. He will be the first Israeli Cabinet minister ever to be indicted.

Mr Moshe Meron, chairman of the committee which recommended lifting the immunity, told the Knesset that the committee was divided 5-5 between Professor Yitzhak Zamir, the Attorney General, had not been politically motivated in requesting that the minister's immunity be lifted and that there was prima facie evidence for an indictment.

## Jamaica hopes for return of British tourists

By Our Foreign Staff

A campaign to make tourism a big foreign exchange earner for Jamaica was launched in London yesterday.

Dr Marco Brown, Jamaica's Minister of State for Tourism, said at a press conference that he hoped that more than 30 per cent of the island's foreign exchange needs could be provided by tourism.

He noted that some tourists had stayed away in recent years, when the Government of Mr Michael Manley was in power.

Dr Brown described the Government of Mr Edward Seaga as "middle of the road". It attached great importance to tourism, he said, and welcomed foreign visitors, investment and private enterprise.

"One of the problems has been crime and violence in the country. This has been drastically reduced since the election and the security forces are now in complete control of the situation," he said.

"Jamaica has always been a winter retreat for many English people and I look forward to their return," he said in conclusion.

## 'Russification' of Estonia blamed for unrest

By Gabriel Ronay

Forty Estonian intellectuals have sent a signed letter to Pravda protesting against the suppression of student demonstrations last year in Tallinn and warning against the consequences of the russification of the country.

The signatories—university lecturers, scientists, writers, artists and others of the younger generation—are not known to have been associated with the dissident movement before.

In their letter they dismiss as mischievous and untrue a 48-hour official report blaming unnamed "extremists" and "criminal hooligans" for the disturbances. "It is unlikely that demonstrations involving thousands of young people took place as a result of prompting by individuals."

The use of force by the police indicated that "perilous splits have formed in our society, splits indicative of antagonism between the teachers and those they teach, of conflict between the leaders and the led... It would be unforgivable to ignore the deeply rooted causes that have given rise to the present state of affairs."

Queues, shortages, a mounting crime rate and alcoholism were secondary, though important, issues, the writers say. The real cause behind the protest marches was mounting concern over the systematic russification of the country.

"In our opinion, the insecurity and, in some cases, even the fear about national identity that exists in the two largest nationality groups in Estonia—the Estonians and the Russians—is the source of the conflicts and stresses between nationalities in Estonia. Fear motivates frequent aggressive behaviour."

They point to the decline of the Estonian section of the population, particularly in Tallinn, as circumstantial evidence of the use of Estonian in business, science and every aspect of daily life; the compulsory presence of university theses, even about the Estonian language and literature, in Russian and the growing scarcity of Estonian-language journals and books.

To avoid a repetition of the nationalist outbursts, "something should be done to alleviate the doubts of Estonians about the security of their present and future and to convince them that the native inhabitants of Estonia will always have the final word on the destiny of their land and people."

## The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

I have yet to be persuaded that any way of cooking heart renders it more than merely wholesome. Like pigs' liver and ox kidney, heart is nourishing, inexpensive, and never worth a detour.

But there are other parts of what we in Britain wistfully call "the offal" which are worth asking for. Chefs do, which is why calves' liver, popular in French and Italian kitchens, fetches as much as £275 a pound. Restaurants also account for the high price of calves' kidneys and sweetbreads: in London, though all may sometimes be found far cheaper outside the capital and major cities. Calves' brains at about £1 a set, and tongues at around 95p a pound, are a better bargain.

Lamb's offal is less fashionable and so consistently cheaper than any part of the fatted calf. Sweetbreads are about £1.20 a pound, tongues 55p a pound and brains less than 40p a set.

Brains, nasty sounding, but delicate in both taste and texture, are unjustly neglected. They are usually sold by the set, rather than by weight, and a set of calves' brains will feed two as a first course, one as a substantial main dish. Smaller lambs' brains are similar in taste and texture.

Brains in butter  
Serves two to four  
Ingredients: 1 lb (450g) brains, or 4 lambs'

2 tablespoons wine vinegar  
Salt  
110g (4oz) butter

Freshly ground black pepper  
1 tablespoon capers (optional)  
1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley

Soak the brains in cold water for 1 hour, drain and pick off any bits of bone, blood and loose membrane. Put the brains in a pan and cover with cold water. Add half the vinegar

## Brain power in the kitchen

and a teaspoon of salt. Bring to the boil, cover and poach on a low heat for about 15 minutes, or until they are firm.

Drain, and when they are cool enough to handle peel away the outer skin and any brown bluish membrane. Slice the brains between two plates and allow them to cool under light pressure. Refrigerate until needed.

Melt three quarters of the butter in a frying pan and cook it on a high heat until it is brown. Pour the brains through a fine sieve into a small bowl. Wipe the pan and melt the remaining butter in it. Fry the brains' white or cut in 1.25cm (1/2 inch) thick slices, until golden on all sides. Lift the brains from the pan to a serving dish and keep warm.

Wipe the pan again and add the remaining tablespoon of vinegar and the browned butter. Stir well together over a low heat and season to taste with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Stir the capers and parsley into the sauce and pour it immediately over the brains.

Serve with crusty bread as a first course, or with a crisp leafy salad or a crunchy vegetable like a deep fried courgettes as a main dish.

There is little to choose between the flavours of calves' and lambs' sweetbreads. Larger calves' sweetbreads are better for frying in slices, but for serving in a creamy sauce, lambs' are just as good.

Sweetbreads in a creamy sauce  
Serves three to four  
Ingredients: 570g (12lb) sweetbreads

Salt  
1 tablespoon lemon juice or wine vinegar  
500ml (1 pint) creamy milk  
1 onion, peeled and quartered  
1 bay leaf  
1 blade mace  
30g (1oz) butter  
30g (1oz) flour

Bring slowly to the boil and simmer gently with a lid on until they are just cooked—about 10 minutes for lambs' sweetbreads, 20 minutes for calves'. They are sufficiently cooked when they lose their pink bluish and are firm to touch. Drain the sweetbreads. Strain and reserve the milk.

Put the sweetbreads in cold water until they are cool enough to handle, then pull away any membrane not required to hold them together. Break them into bite sized pieces.

## 150ml (1/2 pint) dry white wine

reduced to 2 tablespoons by fast boiling

Freshly ground black pepper

Freshly grated nutmeg

1 to 2 tablespoons of brandy (optional)

Soak the sweetbreads in cold salted water and the lemon juice or vinegar for at least an hour. If they are frozen, soak until they are completely thawed. Drain them and put them in a pan with the milk, onion, bay leaf and mace.

Bring slowly to the boil and simmer gently with a lid on until they are just cooked—about 10 minutes for lambs' sweetbreads, 20 minutes for calves'. They are sufficiently cooked when they lose their pink bluish and are firm to touch. Drain the sweetbreads. Strain and reserve the milk.

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PARLIAMENT, January 14, 1981

## New legal framework for education of handicapped children

House of Lords

The success of the International Year of Disabled People depended on the willingness of individuals to help and to participate nationally and locally. Lady Masham of Ilton (Ibid) said.

She was opening a debate calling attention to the International Year of Disabled People, which was the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Subnormal Persons. The Government White Paper *Special Needs in Education*.

It was 10 years since the passing of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act. During those 10 years much had happened. People had been helped. The abuse of the orange badge driving licence had not helped disabled people.

Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science, said that the Government had expressed its support for the International Year of Disabled People. She saw this year as a highlight in continuing the process of increasing participation and integration of disabled people.

The Government intended to introduce legislation shortly in this session to reform the framework within which special education was provided. The new framework would embody all the major changes set out in the White Paper on special needs in education.

Over the next five years, the total school population would fall dramatically. That trend must be reflected in the national system of special education. The new framework would ease the introduction of new measures.

The Bill would introduce a new legal framework which would mean a new concept of special educational need embracing a wider range of children, and would include provision for the multi-professional assessment of educational needs.

Arrangements for parental involvement in decisions about their child's education should be made to eradicate any unnecessary conflict between local education authorities and parents on the appropriateness of a child's education.

The Government wished to see as many children as possible with special educational needs educated in ordinary schools. That principle would be embodied in the legislation. The artificial barriers between handicapped and ordinary schools should be removed so that all children could learn to work together and learn each other's problems.

The proposed legislation would guarantee parental access to the record of assessment of their child's special educational needs, to ensure that the record was not drafted, and for the record to be subject to an annual review by the local education authority. The information would be contained in a

written statement rather than a certificate. It should be in the next five years some special schools would be closed and their local education authorities would be looking at further ways of providing special needs.

She was anxious that children with different handicaps were not placed together. Because it did not offer an alternative to the falling rolls. She would not agree to the inappropriate mixing of handicaps purely for convenience.

Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab) for the Opposition, said that the Opposition was appalled that those who had a vested interest in the problem of disabled children had been able to prevent the Government from taking action against them.

While the Government went on imposing cuts on that section of the community which could least afford it, the Opposition would be ready to attack it, and would expect other people in the community to do precisely the same.

Lord Banks (L) said he would like to see a system which was a statutory referral of children identified as having a disabling condition to voluntary specialist organisations which would provide parents with information and support.

It was regrettable that in the international year the Government was reducing the benefits and services available to disabled people. The Archbishop of Canterbury said the disabled were a special care of the Church. He said that the Church could not regard them as on the edge of society or objects of pity, but as those who were at the centre of the discovery of depth in truth, spirit and reality.

Where it was impracticable to integrate those with severe handicaps into the life of ordinary schools, the Government should establish special schools within the maintained system and sharing resources with local education authorities.

Money made available from the closure of rural schools might be diverted to rural but it might mean a change of legislation. Parents coping with handicapped children needed support and at a time of financial stringency that placed a strain on local education authorities.

There must be another look at the burden VAT was imposing on the work of the voluntary societies. It should be a principle of government that available resources go to the most vulnerable. That meant, even in times of stringency, those who began life with mental or physical handicaps did not get further because of what society failed to do.

The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry (C) said the international year could be used as a special occasion for launching projects carried on into the future and not be treated as a 365-day wonder. Politicians should not use the year as a political ploy. It should be kicked through the opposite goal every time there was a convenient political point to score. No politician could claim to have a monopoly of compassion.

## Technological revolution should help disabled

The Earl of Snowdon said that it was vital to plug into the worldwide technological revolution to ensure that their new machines which were dynamising life could be adapted to the needs of the disabled. The standards of design of the aids for the handicapped were still appallingly low.

It was still so good the disabled being given the opportunity of means of getting about if they could not afford to use them. The cost of making the necessary changes would be very high.

After the encouraging decision to remove VAT from cars bought under the Motability scheme, could not the Government remove VAT from the cost of car adaptations? Could not a fund be set up to finance individual adaptations and could not the Treasury examine how all disabled people might be allowed to buy a certain amount of petrol, perhaps a relief, their working needs, free of duty?

Could not the Government look at the possibility of partial or total remission of road fund tax from vehicles for the disabled while that tax continued to be imposed as it was at present?

This could be the year of a beginning of general acceptance of all disabled people and the end of exceptions made only for those in high positions whose complaints were listened to.

This was the time to appreciate and applaud the ability of disabled people rather than look at their disability. This could be the year when they could be made to feel welcome and wanted.

Lady D'Arcy de Knayth (Ind) said there was widespread dismay at the repeated reference in the White Paper to lack of resources and fears that recording could lead to two classes of handicapped children. There was a concern that there was no unequivocal commitment to integrated education as a principle.

Lady Phillips (Lab) said the National Association for Welfare of Children in Hospital were disappointed that recommendations on the education of children in hospitals had not been taken up in the White Paper.

Made handicapped children had to go in and out of hospital for long periods. Lady Fisher of Rednal (Lab) said the year offered an opportunity for a greater understanding of the needs of the handicapped. Central and local government should clearly understand the need to balance the books did not mean increasing the hardship and deprivation and lost opportunities for handicapped young people.

The debate was concluded.

## Complaint about BSC chairman sent to Committee of Privileges

House of Commons

The House agreed to a motion to refer to the Committee of Privileges a complaint by Mr Dale Campbell-Savours about a conversation between himself and Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman of the British Steel Corporation, on December 18, 1980.

Mr Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) said: Pursuant to the letter I received yesterday, I wish to call attention to a conversation concerning the British Steel Corporation's policy towards Wokingham that took place in the office of the corporation on Thursday, December 18, 1980 between Mr Ian MacGregor and myself, and I wish to move that the matter of my complaint be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

I should at this stage make it quite clear that the content of my motion is not directly related to the BSC. It is currently before the Director of Public Prosecutions, which has already been the subject of news coverage and which relates to the removal of documents by a former employee of the British Steel Corporation in Wokingham.

On Tuesday, December 16, I spoke in the debate on the steel industry. In particular, I mentioned that the World Bank there were widespread rumours that senior BSC executives had produced questionable statistics in order to justify closure. I also mentioned adversely on the judgment of some BSC management and certain trends within the corporation.

I met Mr MacGregor and some of his colleagues on the morning of Thursday, December 18, but instead of discussing some of the matters we had previously discussed, he interrupted my opening discourse and said he took exception to remarks I had made in this House on the previous Tuesday.

After further conversation about my general approach in the House concerning the steel industry, he said that if this was the way I intended to conduct my case in Parliament, I should be prepared to make such statements and attacks on the corporation, further investment in Wokingham would be ended.

He made reference in passing to a particular investment project. During the interview, I realized the significance of what he was saying, together with his implications. I returned at once to my

office in Dean's Yard and dictated to my research assistant the content of the interview and drafted a letter to you, Mr Speaker. This letter was the substance of the one you received from me and referred to yesterday.

I later that morning discussed my experience with three Parliamentary colleagues. I then faced a dilemma. If I continued to press my points in the House, it could be said that I was prejudging the best interests of my constituents, some of whom I had confined in over the Christmas period.

Conversely, if I did not pursue issues I had already raised, I would not be fulfilling my proper duties as an MP. Therefore, the only way I could protect my independence as an MP and protect the rights of my constituents was to avail myself of the procedures specifically designed to achieve those ends—namely to move a motion for a reference to the Committee of Privileges.

As MPs will understand, I have stood by my original decision, not without much thought and consideration, and am gravely aware of the implications of my actions, but placed in my position, the House will agree that I had little alternative.

The House will be conscious of the fact that I have chosen my words with great care. I am not asking for a judgment by MPs on the door of the House. I am only asking to be given the right to put my full case to the Committee of Privileges thereby enabling them to make a judgment.

Mr Francis Pym, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House (Cambridgeshire, C): I make no comment on what Mr Campbell-Savours has said or on the matter proposed by him for reference to the Committee of Privileges.

The best course for the House to take is to refer the matter as proposed in the motion. After that, when the committee has reported, the House could of course comment if it wished to do so. On that basis I agree the motion and think the House would be well advised to accept it.

Mr John Sillis, for the Opposition (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab): This is obviously a complaint which under the new procedure the Committee of Privileges ought to deal with as rapidly as possible and, I would have thought, without any comment from the House itself. The motion was agreed to.

## No need for a rates explosion this year

Only nine local authorities persisted in maintaining levels of expenditure which would force them to take action against them. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the Government would not support grant orders for England. All nine were Labour-controlled authorities and the total penalty on them would amount to £13m.

Mr Heseltine added that even at this stage one authority might persist in its refusal to accept the penalty, and at the end of his speech, he announced that the Government would not support grant orders for England. All nine were Labour-controlled authorities and the total penalty on them would amount to £13m.

Before the House were the main rate support grant settlement, the final increase order for 1979-80, the first increase since 1975-76, and the Rate Support Grant (Principles for Multipliers) Order. Mr Heseltine (Hemel Hempstead, C) said that the Government would not support grant orders for England. All nine were Labour-controlled authorities and the total penalty on them would amount to £13m.

Assumptions about likely savings for pay increases were the most important factor in the current spending targets. The RSG cash limit for 1981-82 would provide for increases of 6 per cent in the base rate of pay for local authorities. Local authorities had been asked to spend 3 per cent less than the targets given them last year. That over 30 years in the past, the Government had not asked local authorities to spend less than the targets given them last year.

Between 1974-75 and 1978-79 under the Labour Government capital spending by local government on schools, buses, houses, roads and other public services had increased by 100 per cent. Labour's last year of office, capital investment by local government was £5,000 million lower than in their first year.

This RSG settlement was part of the process of lowering the demand of the public sector for higher rates. The Government was not prepared to raise rates to this level. If settlements were higher the cost must be found locally. The Government had slowed significantly the cash limit included an allowance for price increases consistent with an average of 11 per cent between 1980-81 and 1981-82.

Given the economic climate, falling inflation and lower private controlled and one—Hammersmith and Fulham—which he thought was a reasonable level. Five of these were eventually left off with a caution.

There was a further complication. While the Secretary of State was raising his threats to the authorities on his list, he was encouraging many other authorities to overpend far more than the cash limit.

Mr Ernest Armstrong (Durham, North-West, Lab) said the evidence was that the most vulnerable in society were being hit most. The Government was imposing central bureaucratic control on local government.

The Government had withdrawn from detailed control of local authority housing projects, but expected greater control to be exercised by the local authorities. Some local authorities would suffer severe revenue losses of rates.

The last Labour Government compensated authorities following the 1976-77 and 1977-78 one would introduce a similar scheme to redistribute a small part of the rate support grant to compensate such authorities.

The poundage figures in the report were set to leave 44m of grant available for distribution if authorities complied with expenditure targets. This should finance this scheme, and details would now be discussed with local authority associations and affected authorities.

A council could spend extra money, but as it could only benefit a small number of people, it would be more accountable to local ratepayers. To this extent, local authority and responsibility was increased in spending and limited by the method of capital allocation. Authorities could switch resources to meet local priorities.

Among the under-spending councils which decided to increase their rates as a result of his initiative was a notable authority was Conservative-controlled South Oxfordshire. It added 7.5 per cent to its budget. Higher income areas, such as Wokingham, were being penalized.

Far from being congenial over-spenders local authorities were much better at controlling their budgets than the Government. Yet the whole aim of the new rate support grant was not to increase how much local government could spend. It was to ensure that money was spent.

The Secretary of State had increased his own local authority to £120m. He had increased all the real local authorities should conform in every particular on the pain of condign punishment. He had increased his own local authority to £120m. He had increased all the real local authorities should conform in every particular on the pain of condign punishment.

Mr Martin Stevens (Hammersmith, Fulham, C) said that even if it was argued that the Inner London Education Authority had been spending more than it was entitled to, it was not reasonable to expect it to do so. The kind of savings that were required and the penalties for over-spending put it in a Catch-22 position.

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## Legislative topics of backbench MPs

The following private members' Bills, with their sponsors indicated, were introduced, formally read a first time, and set down for second reading on the following Fridays:

**JANUARY 30**  
Indecent Displays (Control) Bill to make fresh provision with respect to the public display of indecent material. (Mr Timothy Sainsbury, Dover, C.)

**Industrial Diseases (Notification) Bill** to make further provision for regulations concerning the notification and certification of death and for the recording of information relating to industrial disease. (Mr Spearing, Newham, South, Lab.)

**Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries (Amendment) Bill** to amend the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 by requiring any unquoted securities which vest in British Aerospace or British Shipbuilders pursuant to section 19 of that Act to be valued, in certain circumstances, on an open market basis. (Mr Michael Grylls, North-West Surrey, C, on behalf of Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Hexham, C.)

**Landlord and Tenant Bill** to amend Part II of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954. (Mr Donald Kaberry, Leeds, North-West, C.)

**Local Government and Planning (Amendment) Bill** to provide for control over listed buildings and for the enforcement of planning control and control of listed buildings. (Mr Robert Atkins, Preston, North, C, on behalf of Mr Stephen Hastings, Mid Bedfordshire, C.)

**Freedom of Information Bill** to create a public right of access to official information and articles. New provision for the protection of official information and articles. (Mr Frank Hooley, Sheffield, Hove, Lab.)

**Smaller Businesses (Ministerial and other functions) Bill** to promote the expansion of small and medium sized businesses by making provision for the appointment of a Minister of State with functions in respect of such businesses and for the better enforcement of the law as to company law. (Mr John Page, Harrow, West, C.)

**Football Crowds (Control) Bill** to make further provision for the control of football crowds. (Mr William Whitlock, Nottingham, North, Lab.)

**Horserace Betting Levy Bill** to make provision for and in connection with the making of payments on account of the levy payable under section 27 of the Betting Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 by the owners of licensed premises. (Mr Nicholas Winterton, Macclesfield, C, on behalf of Mr Charles Morrison, Devon, C.)

**Development of Tourism (Scotland) Bill** to amend the Development of Tourism Act 1969 to empower the Scottish Tourist Board to carry on activities outside the United Kingdom so as to encourage people to visit Scotland. (Mr Gordon Wilson, Dundee, East, Scot, Nat.)

**Homeowners (Protection) Bill** to amend the law to provide for the further protection of homeowners and for the better enforcement of the law as to amended. (Mr Frank White, Bury and Radcliffe, Lab.)

**Zoo Licensing (No 2) Bill** to regulate by licence the conduct of zoos. (Mr John Blackburn, Dudley, West, C.)

## Meeting with Talbot chief

Assurances about the Talbot car factory at Linwood were given by Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, to Mr Allan Stewart (East Renfrewshire, C) had asked if the minister had seen press reports about the future of the Government's intentions were.

Mr Fletcher (Edinburgh, North, C): The Government stands ready to assist with any investment which the owning company, PSA, wish to make at Linwood and we will be only too pleased to discuss this with the company.

He added: The Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr George Younger) is meeting the Talbot chief, Mr Allan Stewart, this week. Press reports are untrue when they say Mr Younger has been discussing the future of Talbot with a Japanese or any other foreign car company.

## Parliamentary notices

House of Commons  
Today at 2.30, Debate on Opposition Motion on Government's Economic Policy.  
House of Lords  
Today at 3.30, Debate on Court Bill, Committee (first day).

## Farm policy must be adapted

Continuation of the European Community as an effective and successful organisation depends on the success of its plans to adjust the common agricultural policy, and promote a better balance in Community expenditure.

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab) said the effect of what was being done was to increase the burden of the common agricultural policy. The Government was increasing the burden of the common agricultural policy. The Government was increasing the burden of the common agricultural policy.

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**Inga-Stina Ewbank**





















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## AND SO TO SANCTIONS?

The collapse of the Geneva conference is of serious concern. The conference was not called to argue the substantive issues in a settlement of the Namibian problem: these had been worked through in four years of arduous diplomacy. South Africa's western friends had brought great pressure to bear to modify the Republic's earlier attitudes to the trust territory, and with success. The plan for United Nations-supervised elections and a ceasefire had been agreed by all parties. What remained was mainly implementation. Even the problem of bringing all the political parties—the internal parties as well as Swapo—to the meeting on a comparable basis had been overcome. But the signal is not to be given. South Africa finds after all that the United Nations is not sufficiently impartial.

Many will see in this argument a mere pretext, prompted just because Swapo have become favourites to win at the polls (and Mr Reagan is expected to be pro-South Africa in outlook.) For the bias in the United Nations position has been argued at length, yet everything seemed ready for an election after some redefinition of its officials' stance as a peace-keeping and observing presence. Apparently neither the United Nations officials nor the western diplomats expected it to be, after all, the rock to split Geneva. But, though the United Nations made changes in its officials' remit in Namibia, the Assembly still holds the United Nations to be the legitimate administering authority and is still on record that Swapo is the sole representative of Namibian people, of whatever tribe or race. If this doctrinal point was to abort the

conference, South Africa should never have allowed those concerned to think substantive agreement had been reached.

Swapo now proposes to get the question of mandatory sanctions against the Republic raised in the Security Council. But the Council must see that the organization is not fully impartial as between the internal and external political parties, and so is not in a position to ask its member to impose United Nations authority by mandatory sanctions. For it is still open to the Assembly to take corrective action in respect of its sponsorship of Swapo. United Nations forces and officials have to be seen to be neutral, not as persons institutionally committed to the proposition that Swapo is the only legitimate winner, implying that if the rest (called "puppets" by Mr Nujoma at Geneva itself) in fact won, they would be as much usurpers as the General Assembly holds South African authority to be.

Sanctions against South Africa to enforce the United Nations writ in Namibia would, in any case, almost inevitably merge into a wholly illegitimate exercise to overturn South Africa's internal institutions. However desirable speedy social change may be within South Africa, the charter does not permit interference in its internal affairs—and for this reason also sanctions that would have, or would acquire, "creeping" objectives are ultra vires. The precedent that would be set is totally unacceptable.

In terms of practicalities the South African government must have calculated that sanctions would not work, just as they were not the decisive factor in Rhodesia. Their first victims

would be Zambia, Zimbabwe and other frontline black states, which depend on South African transport, foodstuffs and markets. It would be hypocritical to ignore the probability that Britain would suffer heavily from the wide range of sanctions that Mr Nujoma wants. In particular, in damaging Britain's extensive trading and financial relations with South Africa, they would appreciably add to unemployment here. Other nations might suffer, but none have such large involvements as Britain, and many evaded Rhodesian sanctions while playing lip-service to them. This would happen again.

The Swapo leaders propose to intensify the guerrilla war. This statement is not to be regarded lightly even though South Africa has shown it is well able to hold the guerrillas off. But Swapo will now hope to get more help, and overtly, from its friends, especially Russia and Cuba. If this help were given in quantity, it might not only intensify the war but in some degree internationalize it. The west can use this possibility to urge further concessions on South Africa as well as to insist on a new approach from the United Nations. It looks as though the South African government has decided to challenge the west to make up its mind what value it places on its economic and strategic interests in South Africa. In trade at least the balance between "white" and black Africa has moved steadily to the Republic's disadvantage. The time is approaching for making sides with South Africa or black Africa—if a bridgeable divide so long avoided is opening up at last—critical reappraisals have to be made in western capitals.

## THREE CLASSES OF CITIZEN

The British Nationality Bill, which was published yesterday, is based fairly closely on the White Paper of last July. The proposals set out in that document have been criticized for proposing a new structure of nationality law to accord with the requirements of immigration law, rather than the other way round. It is because of the implications for immigration that the Bill provides for three categories of citizenship: British citizens who would have an unqualified right to live in this country; and citizens of British dependent territories and British overseas citizens, neither of whom would have such a right. If immigration considerations were of no account there would be a strong case for having just one category of citizenship. That would be simpler and would avoid risk creating so many anomalies.

But one of the arguments advanced for having a new law of citizenship is that the right to live here should be based in the first instance on who is a citizen of the United Kingdom. That requires a more coherent definition of citizenship than Britain has at the moment. But if citizenship is to confer the right to live in this country, it is

impractical to expect that it should be defined without regard to the implications for immigration.

If there were to be just one category of British citizenship—to include those who would otherwise become citizens of British dependent territories and British overseas citizens—carrying the right to live in this country, then the gates would be flung open to over five million people in Hong Kong and other colonies and associated states. It is true that few of them would in all probability wish to settle in Britain. Yet nobody can be certain about what might develop in the future, and the mere possibility that a few million people in the overseas dependencies might sometime wish to take up their right of entry would be liable to feed irrational fears. This would be extremely bad for race relations in this country.

The Government is therefore justified in proposing three separate categories, but this does not mean that it has defined these categories correctly. There are a number of points which will need to be examined when the Bill is in committee. One change which should definitely be made is in the proposal that

children born in the United Kingdom should not automatically become British citizens: one parent would have to be either a British citizen or settled in the United Kingdom. There are a number of objections to such a change. It would risk creating a new class of stateless persons; it would create confusion and possible distress because a person might not find out for many years that he was not a citizen with a right to a passport; and it is unnecessary because the number of people who would be deprived of citizenship by this provision cannot be large.

Parliament should also look critically at the limitation of the right to citizenship by descent of those born outside the United Kingdom. The child of British parents, neither of whom was born in the United Kingdom, will not automatically become a British citizen unless one parent is a Crown servant. Where increased reliance is to be placed on the discretion of the Secretary of State it becomes all the more necessary to ensure that there are satisfactory arrangements for appeal. It is on such detailed but extremely important questions for individual rights that Parliament should concentrate its attention.

## THE ORDEAL OF SIGNOR D'URSO

It is not on the word of his captors, but only what he is at liberty, that Signor D'Urso, who was taken by the Red Brigades more than a month ago, will be safe. But yesterday's message from the terrorists gives hope that his captivity will soon be over.

The case has provided a sharp reminder of the continuing effectiveness of the Red Brigades, in spite of the intensive campaign against them, and of the pressures that a group of that sort can bring to bear on society. In the past few weeks they have carried out various operations, such as the kidnapping of Signor D'Urso and the assassination of General Galvassi, the head of prison security, which have shown them to be very well informed about the operations of the security services. So it is clear that they have some well-placed sympathizers who are ready to help.

In the D'Urso case, they have been helped by the difficulties that there are bound to be in a free society in dealing with a threat like this. No one wants to have an innocent man die at the

hands of a group of this sort, and so there were bound to be pressures to accede to their demands. It was pressures of this sort, brought by the Socialists, which led to the government's decision to announce the closure of the high-security prison of Asinara, one of the terrorists' demands. It was a mistake, and has been much criticized. The same pressures led to the decisions of *Il Messaggero* and *Il Secolo XIX* to break ranks with other national papers and publish the statements made by Red Brigades inmates in Trani and Palmi prisons.

Even so, there is no reason to accept the Red Brigades' claim that they have won a "great victory". They have proved that they have nuisance value, to put it at its lowest, and have made themselves talked about. But it is hard to believe that publication of their arid propaganda is going to make many converts. As against that, there was the firm refusal of the government earlier this month, backed by all the main parties, to negotiate with the Red Brigades; and the deci-

sion by much of the press that it will no longer serve as a conduit for terrorist declarations. Nor, apparently, have the Red Brigades succeeded in their demand that the conspiracy charges brought against their members in the two prisons should be dropped. The bringing of the charges was a shrewd tactical move by the Government, because it meant that the inmates could face a murder charge if Signor D'Urso was killed.

Some good can come out of this case if it strengthens the resolve of all concerned to stand up against terrorist pressure. Obviously, every case has to be considered on its merits, and there need be no objection to the press publishing a statement by a hostage and threatening his life, for a case like that need not lead to a reputation. But in dealing with the Red Brigades according to one request under threat is likely to lead to new kidnappings, new threats and possibly further loss of life. So there must be a strong case for standing firm.

## Free from fetters grim

Sir, That the D'Oyly Carte management may at last find an excuse to free itself from the fetters of the "traditional" performances demanded by audiences is something devoutly to be wished. The tired, meaningless, old-fashioned hand signals that pass for comic business, carried out in the name of W. S. Gilbert, would I am sure, appeal that up-to-the-moment man of the theatre were he with us today.

Traditional Gilbert and Sullivan will survive without the D'Oyly Carte. It is enshrined for ever in the hearts of the more fanatic amateur G and S societies, and that is exactly what it belongs to.

What is vital is that the D'Oyly Carte management remains in being. In Europe, a company will perform Puccini, Verdi and Mozart alternately with Heuberger, Lehár and Kalman, each genre being brilliantly performed by the same company of

artists. No English musical mobbery there!

The present D'Oyly Carte management, congratulated by the Arts Council report on its fine business expertise in the art of touring and tight budgeting, would do well to consider the formation of a similar type of company and thus bring to the starved provincial public the really wide selection of the musical theatre, thus demonstrating to the public and the generous of grants that far from being something left over from the past it could be a considerable national asset in the theatrical future.

Yours faithfully,  
MAX MIRADIN,  
179c West Heath Road, NW3.

## Trees for energy

Sir, As well as planting and pollarding oaks for fuel (January 7) and coppicing (January 9) there is a

further traditional source of wood which is being neglected, namely the tree in the hedgerow.

In this part of the country, at least, it is noticeable how, with the use of the flail trimmer for cutting hedges, the practice of leaving promising young saplings in hedges to grow into trees is being abandoned, presumably because the tractor driver finds it a nuisance to lift the flail, and it might even mean that some trimming up would have to be done by hand.

This, together with neglect of existing hedgerow trees by allowing them to become choked with ivy, is going to lead to miles of uniformly trimmed hedges with not a hedgerow tree in sight. I'd say right, but such a dull landscape and such a waste of a valuable resource.

Yours sincerely,  
A. J. MALPAS,  
Hillside,  
Kimbolton,  
Leamington, Hertfordshire.

## Are poorer states getting poorer?

From Professor H. W. Singer

Sir, In his article on "The flaws in the Brandt report" (January 9), Professor Hayek questions that there is "something wrong" in the fact that countries which are poorer tend to grow more slowly than richer countries, thus falling more and more behind. Yet the World Development Report, 1980, published by the World Bank in Washington, shows that this is precisely what happened, at least over the last 18 years.

The average annual growth in per capita gross national product, 1960-1978, was 1.6 per cent for the low-income countries, 3.1 per cent for the middle-income countries (even excluding such capital-surplus countries as the Middle East and Iran which grew by 4.1 per cent and 7.9 per cent) and 3.7 per cent for the high-income countries (even excluding high-income Libya and Saudi Arabia which grew by 9.7 per cent). In that sense, clearly the poor have fallen further behind the rich.

In demonstrating a "sad decline" of some countries because they have become "increasingly socialist", Professor Hayek lists Great Britain, Argentina and Czechoslovakia. This is not a convincing list.

Let us leave aside Great Britain (although even the UK growth rate per capita was higher in 1960-78 than the low-income countries). But why Argentina? The history of regimes and the current regime in Argentina are very similar to Chile which Professor Hayek singles out as an "economic miracle".

Whatever the differences between Chile and Argentina, different degrees of socialism seem the least plausible. And as for Czechoslovakia, if we agree that free Czechoslovakia before 1938 was the most advanced country in Central Europe, it is not surprising that it was the only country to remain free after the war. It was the only country to remain free after the war. It was the only country to remain free after the war.

One may well prefer to live in a democracy with a low growth rate than in a dictatorship with a high growth rate, but that is not the point which Professor Hayek makes.

Yours etc,  
H. W. SINGER,  
The Institute of Development Studies,  
University of Sussex,  
Brighton, Sussex,  
January 12.

## Rugby football injuries

From Mr Kenneth Spence

Sir, Rugby has always incurred vigorous physical risk. In any fair play accident has always been part of the game. Your concern should be not so much with the effect of tetraplegia (letters, December 12 and 19), but with the modern cause of the accident.

Two vertebrae were fractured in my neck for Scotland vs Ireland at Murrayfield in 1953. Those were not the only bones broken over a period of four years. I hold no grudge for any threat but in observing modern rugby today, at most levels, my impression is that the actual collision now bears some deliberate malice on too many occasions.

For my outdated belief—and I will be pleased for this—game has lost its *joie de vivre*. We should listen to men like Logie Bruce Lockhart, with whom I had the privilege to play for Scotland. We should remember the laughter of Tony Stewart, Cliff Morgan, and remember Mr. O'Connell at Richmond, in 1952, that you could still win with 13 men without substitutes.

We have become far too structured, over-coached, set to win, and too much of the game has been lost. From the game, yet today our successors meanly question the referee, who is virtually the only "little man" who gives back to the spirit man. We have too much of the "game" left, but our caring minds. We forget the spirit. It is far too aggressive now.

George Orwell once wrote: "Serious sport has nothing to do with fair play. It is bound up with hatred, jealousy, boastfulness, disregard of the rules, and all the rest of it." That is why people are getting hurt now, with a frequency and even severity, and at all age levels, that is well in excess of the case 20 years back. Rugby is now judged as a sport, and not as a game. It is a game, and not a sport.

I blame the captains, who have shelved their moral responsibility; who defer to coaches, rely on substitutes, and who will not kick the scrummers out because they fear to lose more than being glad to win.

Yours faithfully,  
KENNETH SPENCE,  
60 Elbert Street, SW6,  
January 14.

## Historical heirlooms

From Commander L. M. M. Saunders Watson

Sir, John Lawrence asks, (January 6) how he might hold together his family pictures and heirlooms from the ravages of capital transfer tax (CTT). As he says, he cannot put them into a charitable trust and keep them in the house unless of course the house itself forms part of the trust. If the house is outstanding then he could claim conditional exemption for the house and its historically associated contents from CTT.

If the house is not, then he can sell such conditional exemption for such of his chattels as are of museum quality in the national or local sense. If accepted they could then remain in his house subject to undertakings for public access which may not, depending on the circumstances, extend to more than a viewing by appointment, which it appears Sir John already offers.

Yours faithfully,  
L. M. SAUNDERS WATSON,  
Deputy President,  
Historic Houses Association,  
Rockingham Castle,  
Leicestershire.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Power of civil defence after a nuclear strike

From Professor J. H. Humphrey, FRS, and Dr J. Fielding

Sir, Those who seek to draw attention to the virtually unimaginable horror of a large-scale nuclear attack on Britain will welcome the call for a balanced debate on civil defence made by the spokesman for emergency planning officers (January 6).

We do not propose to debate their claim to be the true humanists of war or their accusation of intellectual tergiversation against serious people who believe in the value of unilateral nuclear disarmament for Britain. However they state the central core of their argument clearly: "Even though millions of people would die in a large-scale nuclear war... the numbers of survivors would be significantly greater if proper preparations are made..." Proper home defence preparations would pay their biggest dividends in terms of lives saved in a large-scale nuclear war.

The present world stockpile is the equivalent of some 10,000 atomic bombs. Since Hiroshima there have been some 1,200 nuclear bomb tests of weapons vastly greater in destructive power than the first. Their effects in terms of blast, fire and radiation are well documented. The data base for the medical effects of death, destruction and disorganisation certainly starts with Hiroshima and Nagasaki and although the effects of modern weapons are less certain, they can be calculated. It is the careful consideration of available information on the foreseeable medical

consequences which makes the claim of the civil defence programme spurious. The *Lancet* (November 15, 1980) stated: "In scenes of scarcely imaginable devastation, such medical aid as survived would have little to offer."

We do not criticise civil defence as such and we regard planning to cope with large-scale emergencies as important and valuable in peace or war. Rather we are deeply concerned that our Government and its advisers should not be misled by the defence of Britain can only be assured by a declared intention to use nuclear weapons if necessary. As an earnest of its readiness to be at the receiving end as well as the sending end of such weapons, the civilian population must be reassured that civil defence measures could make the consequences acceptable.

The claim of the civil defence programme to mitigate death and destruction in a nuclear attack is a dangerous sedative inviting acquiescence. We believe that there is a worldwide constituency of people who wish to be freed from the threat of nuclear death of the civilized world. We aim to inform the public of the medical and social consequences of nuclear war so that they may weigh carefully whether they can accept policies which such consequences.

Yours etc,  
J. H. HUMPHREY, Chairman,  
V. FIELDING, Vice-Chairman,  
Medical Campaign against  
Nuclear Weapons,  
120 Edith Road, W14.

### Lawyers and divorce

From Mr Graham Lee

Sir, "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers," says Dick in *Henry VI, Part II*. Trevor Berry (*Social Focus*, January 7) has taken up this perennially popular cry. If you want a civilized divorce, the argument goes, don't see a solicitor; he will only stir up conflict where none exists. The case is made attractive by a lot of money could be saved if lawyers were dispensed with in matrimonial matters. But is it true?

The role of solicitors in divorce proceedings has been studied by Mervyn Muller, research fellow in the Department of Social Administration and Social Work at the University of Bristol. His findings, the results of two surveys of divorcing parents, have recently been published in *Justice and Welfare in Divorce* (Sweet and Maxwell, 1980).

He says: "Contrary to popular belief, my impression, from other investigations I have recently conducted, is that many solicitors, probably the majority, do not adopt an unqualified partisan stance when dealing with family disputes. Many realize that they need to protect their clients' interests without stimulating further family conflict, and to find ways of fostering realistic settlement without making their clients feel that the lawyer's allegiance is weakening."

Mr Berry somewhat cynically asks whether the Lord Chancellor's Department, and lawyers generally, have failed to advance the cause of family courts because such courts would divert funds away from lawyers and into conciliation. (Matrimonial work is, incidentally, one of the least remunerative areas of legal work.) In fact, lawyers are

among the prime movers in the conciliation services which are being set up in various parts of the country at the moment.

But the main argument against coping lawyers out of divorce is that divorce is firmly set in a legal framework. There is a large and complex body of family law, and a network of legal principles on which the courts are based. Each party has rights capable of enforcement through the courts, the nature and extent of which he or she is not likely fully to appreciate. A tribunal would have to have the power to make orders for custody, maintenance and so on, which would be enforceable like court orders.

Although most divorcing spouses would prefer things to be settled as amicably as possible, when such attempts fail, the law must be applied. It is also worth noting that the law which have been done of various types of legal proceedings—industrial tribunals, national insurance local tribunals, supplementary benefit appeal tribunals, and bail appeals—have been based on the hearing can significantly affect the outcome. Barring legal representation would also give the more articulate and self-confident spouse a considerable edge.

The Law Society agrees that the present system is unsatisfactory. As suggested in our discussion document: "A Better Way Out", what is needed is a family court, staffed by legal and welfare specialists, with conciliation at an early stage, using an inquisitorial rather than an adversarial procedure. Yours sincerely, GRAHAM LEE, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, WC2, January 9.

### Striking attitudes

From Mr Richard Shepherd, MP for Aldridge Brownhills (Conservative)

Sir, I would submit that it is much more probable that it is the attitudes betrayed in the letter of January 5 from Mr Derek Prag MEP, which have led to an increasingly noticeable alienation of British sentiment for the EEC rather than any vigorous defence of British national economic interest as expressed by Teddy Taylor or any other member of the Conservative European Reform Group. Indeed Mr Prag's assertion that, what is in effect a robust defence of our national interest by the European Reform Group, not incidentally dissimilar to the characteristic of the French, could only bring about the withdrawal of Britain from the Community in itself reflects the passive nature of those who talk of change but who have so far failed to identify detailed proposals for altering those policies that are contrary to our national interest.

The common agricultural policy is a point in question. No detailed proposal for reform has, as far as I know, emerged from either Mr Prag or the Ministry of Agriculture for public discussion, although it has been accepted that the CAP, as presently constituted, is unacceptable and that reform is urgent and inevitable.

Many of us in the Reform Group believe that the CAP is unworkable and that far from being a cornerstone on which the Com-

munity is founded may well be the rock on which it founders.

It is surely a folly to imagine that the only way in which farm income can be maintained and continuity of supply guaranteed is through the destruction of free trade in food. I do not believe that the CAP is not dissimilar to the corn laws of the last century supported by and large by the same mixture of reaction and self-interest and that intrinsically the CAP is as bad and indefensible. The only consolation is that with the corn laws abolition is inevitable.

In other areas this paper has pointed out that the Government's present position on fisheries is a retreat from that declared by both Government and the public. Indeed, I would hold that our territorial fisheries are as much a national resource as North Sea oil and that the same policy response with regard to depletion, conservation, and investment should be adopted.

The purpose behind the European Reform Group is to seek positive ways in which the structure of the Community can be reformed compatible with our national membership. My own feeling is critical analysis will be more supportive in the long run of membership of what will be a very different Community than what is perceived by the public to be the uncritical men of those identified as Euro-fanatics.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD SHEPHERD,  
House of Commons.

### Passing-out parade

From Mr Brian Edwards

Sir, Mr Jonathan Page (January 12) suggests that Britannia Royal Naval College errs in training both Iranian and Libyan officers. It is the custom of the Law Society to receive a visit each year from those officers from the Staff College course at Camberley.

It is I believe a great pride of our military and naval institutions that people come from all over the world, from countries who may be in conflict, to learn not only the skills of the soldier and sailor but what may lay behind those institutions.

At the height of the tension between Egypt and Israel the Law Society was privileged to receive officers from both countries, attending the same Staff College course, who were here not only to perfect their military knowledge but hopefully to gain some idea of the concept of British justice and perhaps this small country's ability to survive. We are probably unique in Europe in this approach.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN EDWARDS,  
Little Burstead,  
Essex,  
January 13.

### Hot under collar

From Mr Robert Gieve

Sir, Paper collars did, in a way, briefly assist in keeping the Empire together. In the more distant corners, judges liked to appear attired as they ought, not always, however, in the most flattering way. Until the manufacturers finally gave up, not very long ago, a customer of ours who is a judge in Australia was ordering a regular supply of paper wing collars.

However, I must with respect disagree with our valued customer, Mr Ivan Mason, whose letter you publish today (January 14). Paper collars were inelegant garments. A well-starched collar adds a unique final touch to a gentleman's suit. Case apart, the problem is how to get a collar properly starched. In these days when home industries are starting up for everything, wives might find recapturing the art of starching an amusing diversion. Also a method of control; a husband who tends to be cross at home might well mend his ways if he was faced with a series of saw-edged collars.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT GIEVE, Director,  
Gieves and Hawkes Ltd,  
1 Savile Row, W1,  
January 14.

## Competition for charity funds

From Mr Nicholas Hinton

Sir, Your very brief report entitled "Charity fears" (January 13), hardly does justice to a matter that is of the greatest concern to many voluntary organizations throughout the country.

Last year saw the passage through Parliament of the Health Services Act. This contains, among other measures, a short clause enabling health authorities to engage in fund-raising activities. At the time it was assumed that this clause was designed to encourage the resources given to, and the help given by, such groups as hospital Leagues of Friends and to attract non-government money for such limited and specific items as body-scanners or dialysis machines. Indeed, assurance was given by speakers from the Government side when, for example, Lord Sandy talked of "a modest extension of existing ways in which the National Health Service can draw on voluntary funds."

However, shortly before Christmas the Department of Health and Social Security issued a circular on the subject to health authorities. Published without any adequate consultation, this document (Health Circular 80/11) encourages any part of the NHS to set up registered charities and appeal to the public, charitable grant-making trusts, commerce and industry for funds. Furthermore, all fund-raising activities carried out by the NHS are to be financed by what amounts to interest-free loans from the Exchequer.

This move by the DHSS places the Health Service, the largest and most heavily-financed single enterprise in the whole field of social welfare, in direct competition for funds with the voluntary sector.

Secondly, this comes at a time when many voluntary organizations are feeling the effects of the recession and are having to make substantial cutbacks in the services they offer to those who suffer handicap within the voluntary sector. No measure is introduced at the outset of the International Year of Disabled People.

Thirdly, the DHSS circular gives a clear advantage to the Health Service over voluntary organizations in the matter of raising interest-free loans. No voluntary body has such a resource. Finally, the DHSS has breached a major principle of cardinal importance to voluntary organizations by encouraging and allowing statutory organizations to achieve charitable status. In doing so, this measure is introduced at the outset of the International Year of Disabled People.

One of the most damaging blows suffered by the voluntary sector for many years. It is extraordinary that the circular comes from a Government and a department that has given overt encouragement to voluntary organizations and a Government which is encouraging the public to give more generously to voluntary organizations.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director,  
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,  
26 Bedford Square, WC1,  
January 14.

### Jealous guard on moor

From Mr B. N. Howell

Sir, Readers of your report on "The corner of Dartmoor and Exmoor" (January 2) could form a very inaccurate impression of life in these areas, and readers could conclude that those responsible for their care have been negligent. As a small Dartmoor landowner, I quote some facts.

In our little parish of Harford, all within the Dartmoor National Park, we have about three small fields under the plough in 2,000 acres or so, much less than in the 1940s and 1950s, and possibly less than 1,000 or 2,000 years ago.

No "vast conifer plantations" have been planted on Dartmoor since the voluntary agreement on forestry in the early 1960s. Most inaccurate is the impression of the moor swarming with troops under training. I wish our Army was larger. Although I walk on the moor frequently, it is at least 20 years since I met anybody in uniform. There was a rumour that a helicopter was going to land a few years ago, but, alas, we missed that excitement.

Yours faithfully,  
B. N. HOWELL,  
Lydbridge, Devon,  
January 7.

### Model example

From Mr Jonathan Ruffle

Sir, When Mr Bernard Levin (January 13) remarks that a libellous waxwork would be far "stranger and jollier" than a libellous painting he is obviously unaware of the case of Monson v Madame Tussaud's in 1894 which, indeed, has both these qualities.

In that year, simultaneously in exhibitions in London and Birmingham, a waxwork of Alfred John Monson was shown. A prime figure in the engaging "Ardlammont mystery", he had been tried in Scotland for murder but a verdict of "not proven" was returned. Thus he could not appear in the tableau of the affair, but instead was placed near the entrance of the Chamber of Horrors.

Mr Monson was able to sue Madame Tussaud's for the defamatory implications of his proximity to those who were "to be publicly reviled".

Although he shared his London display with Piggott, a suicide, Mrs Maybrick, a poisoner, and Scott, another in the Ardlammont case who was on the run, he appeared in Birmingham in the company of, among others, Queen Victoria and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Had the latter pair thought to sue, one feels the case would have been even stranger and more jolly still.

Yours faithfully,  
JONATHAN RUFFLE,  
St Catherine's College,  
Cambridge,  
January 13.







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**IMI**  
for building products, not ceilings,  
but more general engineering,  
to restaurants, hotels and  
wrought metals.  
IMI Limited, Birmingham, England

Anomalies of  
shop hours  
legislation  
page 19

**Stock markets**  
FT 100 446.0, down 1.4  
FT 100 68.47, up 0.08  
**Sterling**  
\$ 2.3970, up 85 points  
Index 79.4, up 0.1  
**Dollar**  
Index 86.8, down 0.2  
DM 1.9925, down 78pts  
**Gold**  
\$ 539.50, down 55  
**Money**  
3 mth sterling 14 1/4-14 1/2  
3 mth Euro \$ 184-185  
6 mth Euro \$ 174-168

### Government is ready to assist Talbot

The Government is ready to assist with any investment that Talbot, which is making a bid for the plant in Renfrewshire, Mr Alex Fletcher, Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, said yesterday.

The Government would be "only too pleased" to discuss investment with the company at its meeting between Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, and the chief executive of PSA, Talbot's owner.

His comments came during Question Time in the Commons when he denied reports that Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, had been discussing the future of Talbot with Japanese or other foreign car companies.

Sir Keith met MPs from Scotland and the west Midlands in a meeting which was expressed about the future of Talbot and Sir Keith was pressed to discover what was happening in the French-owned company.

### Scanning assets

Philips Medical Systems has acquired the remaining assets of EMI's medical computerized tomography (CT) scanning business and will have exclusive collaboration with Philips EMI on continuing research on CT scanning. This also includes a settlement concerning all EMI's CT scanner patents and gives Philips full rights to use them.

### Hunting Gibson bids

Hunting Gibson has emerged as the bidder for the Stag Line shipping group with a £4.4m cash offer worth 35p a share. Roper Holdings, with a near 30 per cent stake, has agreed to accept, but the board of Stag has yet to consider the offer.

### Venture capital

A joint enterprise between the Highland and Islands Development Board, the Bank of Scotland and Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, to provide risk capital for business ventures in the Scottish Highlands has been formed. Sir Kenneth Alexander, chairman of the board, said in Glasgow that the enterprise would be called Highland Venture Capital and would aim to provide between £25,000 and £300,000 to promising projects.

### More life annuities

The annual premium figures for life assurance annuities increased in 1980 by 16 per cent from £1.6m to £1.8m. This was a 17 per cent increase in 1979.

### 'Significant' oil find

Phillips Petroleum said tests of its "T" block appraisal well in the United Kingdom sector of North Sea showed "significant hydrocarbon amounts" on both sides of the well. The well is about two miles south-east of the Thelma discovery on block 16/17.

### Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 1.37 points up at 968.47. The S&P 500 rose 1.26873. The £ was 0.529962.

### PRICE CHANGES

#### Rises

Allied Colloids 11p to 110p  
Glaxo Hides 5p to 33p  
Lemo 7p to 70p  
Magnet & Strong 11p to 110p  
Merrill House 5p to 30p

#### Falls

Anglo Am Corp 35p to 62p  
Barlow Rand 31p to 30p  
Berkeley Exp 17p to 20p  
Chimbrain & Himp 4p to 4p  
Cons Gold Fields 13p to 47p

### THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.03	Norway	12.83
Austria	33.30	Portugal	134.00
Belgium	79.50	South Africa	2.15
Canada	75.00	Spain	166.00
Denmark	15.20	Sweden	11.00
Finland	9.65	Switzerland	4.47
France	11.35	USA	2.45
Germany DM	4.34	Yugoslavia	83.50
Greece	12.00		
Hong Kong	12.05		
Ireland	1.37		
Italy Lira	2,370.00		
Japan Yen	2,268.00		
Netherlands	5.35		

## Treasury chief's pre-budget pledge to stick with monetary targets

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

The first major shot in the Government's attempt to restore credibility in its medium term financial strategy ahead of the Budget was fired by Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in Zurich yesterday.

Mr Lawson told the Zurich Society that the Government was determined to keep to its path of progressive cuts in the real level of public spending and reduce the rate of monetary expansion.

He said that, although the broad money supply had been running well ahead of the target rate, overall monetary conditions in the United Kingdom had not been inflationary so far.

But it was essential from now on to secure a lower rate of growth of broad money, he said, and over the three remaining years of the medium term financial strategy it might well be prudent to claw back at least some of the excess growth that has already occurred.

While giving official recognition to the fact that the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) for the present financial year was likely to be above the Chancellor's revised November estimate of £11,300m, Mr Lawson showed more confidence about prospects for next year.

He said there was "no reason to suppose that next year's borrowing requirement cannot be brought back more or less on track by which I mean the 3 per cent of GDP set out in the medium term financial strategy plus the automatic consequences for the public finances of GDP in

1981-82 being lower than forecasted, for illustrative purposes, when the medium term financial strategy was published almost a year ago.

Mr Lawson added that making allowance in the PSBR for the deepening of the recession did not mean that the brakes were off. He pointed to the fact that the Chancellor had already announced measures to raise additional revenue next year and said that so far under the present Government there had been an increase in the real burden of taxation, in pursuit of the principles of sound finance.

Laying considerable emphasis on the need to control public spending, Mr Lawson also emphasised the importance of controlling the PSBR with precision. That was why it was necessary to have improved funding and monetary control techniques.

Mr Lawson said that Britain was unusual in having the central bank responsible for financing the Government's budget deficit. "But this oddity should not be allowed to become an impediment to what needs to be done."

Mr Lawson was optimistic on the general outlook for the economy. "We have now more or less reached the bottom, and better times are clearly in sight," he said.

Unemployment was likely to continue to rise in 1981, however, though not at the rate seen in 1980. Any attempt to pump more money into the system in order to create more jobs in the short term would merely ensure fewer jobs and still higher unemployment in the future. That was not a price the Government was prepared to pay.

## Directors 'worst paid' in relation to duties

By Edward Townsend

Company directors are some of the best paid people in the country but, in relation to their responsibilities, some of them are among the worst paid.

(This is a conclusion of a survey of directors' rewards carried out in conjunction with the Institute of Directors. It shows that the median salary for executive directors is £18,475 a year, plus the use of a company car, a contributory pension and probably private health and life insurance cover.

In return, the average director works a 40-hour formal week plus an "informal" 15 hours and receives a theoretical five weeks annual holiday.

Not surprisingly, the survey shows that the top directors of big companies are paid far more than their counterparts in small companies. The managing director of a company with a turnover of more than £100m should be earning about £35,500, but this drops to £14,350 in a firm with sales of less than £1m.

Reward Regional Surveys of Staffordshire, the compiler of the survey, attempts to put the directors' life styles into perspective.

Directors' salaries are said to have risen by 17 per cent in the 12 months to October, 1980, with performance bonuses increasing by about 12 per cent. Fringe benefits have been cut back rather than increased. A rise in earnings of about half as much again is estimated to have been needed to maintain living standards.

Take the case of the senior director who has a 58 per cent mortgage on a 5-6 bedroom, centrally heated detached house. As well as rates and telephone charges he pays for his golf club subscription, a 2500cc private car and eats out about 250 times a year. He drinks and smokes, spends about £2,200 a year on clothes, has a "daily help" for 182 hours a year and provides day school fees.

Last September he would have needed to be paid £39,265 a year to afford such a life style and to save about £1,200. This would have meant a salary increase of 28.5 per cent in the 12 months.

Some of the controversial fringe benefits introduced at the time of high marginal tax rates have disappeared and there is "a clear cash for cash" very few directors benefit from company financed school fees schemes, or subsidised housing, or even have the private telephones and cars. Most directors apparently have to be content with a pension, life insurance and a car.

Non-executive directors emerge as the lowest paid of all. In small and medium-sized companies they spend 24 days a year on their duties and receive an average of £2,000. At £83 a day, this is said to be well below the daily rate of a professional consultant.

The report says: "The money/peanuts analogy applies - if you pay peanuts there is a danger of getting a part-time monkey screwing up the works and defeating the whole object of non-executive directors."

Directors' Rewards, Reward Regional Surveys, 1 Mill Street, Stone, Staffordshire, £28.

## Sir Leslie Murphy angry over 'dogma and prejudice' hampering board NEB a 'victim of political strife'

By Kenneth Owen

A bitter attack on both main political parties and on Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, for their treatment of the National Enterprise Board, was made last night in London by Sir Leslie Murphy, former chairman of the NEB.

Sir Leslie and his colleagues on the NEB board resigned in November, 1979, over the decision to switch responsibility for monitoring Rolls-Royce from the NEB to the Department of Industry.

Addressing the Royal Institute of Public Administration last night, Sir Leslie said that the NEB had become another example of the continuous strife between the two main parties on how to deal with industry.

"In this strife, the merits of the case are ignored," he said. "The left wing of the Labour Party continues to press for more and more public ownership, ignoring the mixed record of the publicly owned corporations over the last 30 years."

The right wing of the Conservative Party sees no merit in anything except private enterprise and market forces, ignoring the failures of the first and the gains in the second.

Sir Leslie confessed that he had become sick and tired of this sterile confrontation. What a relief it would be to have a government that addressed itself objectively to find the best solution of each problem, and put away dogma and prejudice. If the Conservative Party were to take us along this road, I for one would be an enthusiastic supporter."

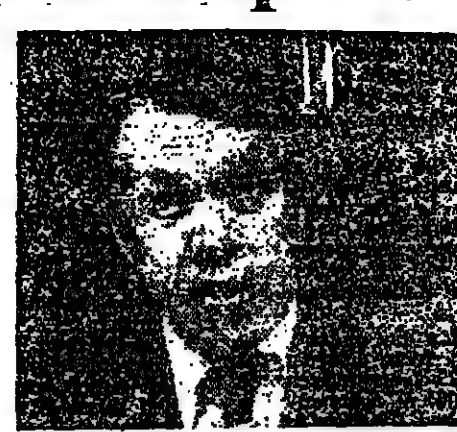
In trying to overcome "the handicaps with which we were lumbered initially", the NEB had approached its tasks in the commercial sector; underlined the need for sound management of its subsidiary companies; kept away from any involvement in planning agreements; refused to acquire shares in profitable companies as an end in itself; and not used its financial strength to acquire companies against the wishes of the shareholders.

This was successful in changing the hostile attitudes of "all except the right-wing bigots of the Conservative Party". But Sir Leslie admitted: "Of course, we made mistakes. We tried to do too much too soon and as a result some of the early management decisions were based on inadequate market research."

In 1976 the NEB invested £73m in 13 companies, and in the next three years the figures were £200m invested, with interests in 33 companies; £359m invested, with interests in 46 companies; and £225m invested in the closure of a brewery including Rolls-Royce and BL.

This was a very rapid rate of growth starting from scratch, and Sir Leslie said he would have preferred to have taken it more slowly.

Discussing the NEB's five main roles, Sir Leslie said he agreed with Mrs



Sir Leslie Murphy: "We tried to do too much too soon, and there was some inadequate market research."

the former board chairman first listed the role as a state-owned industrial holding company. Despite what Sir Arthur Knight, the chairman, had said in the board's 1979 annual report, the role of the NEB in relation to BL - before the resignation of Sir Leslie and his board - was neither illusory nor minor."

It was the NEB that stopped BL's £150m (foundry) programme, because it could not be justified, Sir Leslie stressed. It was the NEB that stopped the company's plans to build a new £65m centralized engineering centre. It was the NEB that reduced BL's 1979 funds from the £500m requested to £150m.

And though government approval was necessary, it was the NEB which removed the chairman and chief executive of BL and appointed Sir Michael Edwards instead.

The role of monitoring BL's performance and approving plans and programmes was best performed by "an industrial holding company composed of senior businessmen and trade unionists" rather than by ministers and civil servants.

"Had it not been for the decisiveness of the NEB, I do not think that ministers and civil servants would have made the management changes in BL that were essential for its future. And in the case of Rolls-Royce they showed a marked reluctance to allow the NEB to take the action that the board judged to be necessary."

The second main role of the NEB was the development of an industrial strategy. The board had made some progress towards this before the change of government in 1979. Unfortunately, the new Government did not believe in an industrial strategy.

Sir Leslie said he agreed with Mrs

Thatcher that inflation must be brought down; that wage and salary increases must be paid for by increased productivity; and that industry must become more competitive.

"But these exhortations alone are not enough; we shall fail to cure the deepest problems that afflict our society - unemployment, decrease in living standards, falling behind in the technological race - unless we develop an effective industrial strategy."

The remaining three roles of the NEB were support for small companies, support for exports and support for regional initiatives. In the 1980 Industry Act Sir Keith Joseph had repeated the NEB's duty to promote industrial democracy and Sir Leslie did not think the end of this had been heard.

The total borrowing powers of the NEB were substantially reduced. "This was stupid," Sir Keith now has to go back to Parliament to increase them to where they were before, how humiliating."

The function of reorganization and reconstruction was abolished. Sir Leslie said he had mixed feelings about this, but on balance thought this was a mistake. Last, Sir Keith imposed the duty of disposal of investments in dealing with BL and Rolls-Royce. "Here again, I think that the Secretary of State erred in forcing disposals on the NEB irrespective of the effect this would have on its financial performance."

In summary, Sir Leslie said he claimed that the NEB, taking into account the political controversy and short time it had been in existence, had performed much better than could have been expected. It had had successes and some failures. It had shown great resolution and decisiveness in dealing with BL and Rolls-Royce. It had taken important initiatives in high technology.

"But the NEB has been severely shaken by the successive traumas which have overtaken it since the election. The principal reason for this is the Secretary of State himself."

"For although on numerous occasions he tells the House of Commons that the NEB has a role - not as wide as under the Labour Government, but nevertheless important - he also makes it clear that he himself does not really believe in the NEB and hopes that in time it will wither away."

"I am not alone in forecasting that 1981 will bring great difficulties to British industry. I am sure that we shall see a gradual change in the attitude of the Government of industry as more and more firms get into difficulty. I just hope that the Secretary of State will give sufficient backing and support to the NEB so that it will be able to perform satisfactorily when its services are more and more in demand."

## Watney to cut London workforce by 250

By Derek Harris

Watney London, a division of Grand Metropolitan's Watney Mann and Truman Breweries, is to make 250 workers redundant, at its Watney's brewery in July.

Under a rationalization plan that will switch keg filling to the company's more modern Morlake complex.

It brings the total of redundancies recently announced in the recession-hit brewery industry near to the 4,500 mark.

Over time at a regional distribution centre in Northampton another redundancy announcement came from Eldridge Pope, the Dorset brewers, which expects to dismiss about 20 workers.

Watney was the first to bring in short-time working, with a four-day week for 250 at its Norwich Brewery. Ansell's, the west Midlands arm of Allied Breweries, put 800 workers on a

four-day week last Monday. At Mitchells and Butlers, subsidiary of Bass, talks on 76 voluntary redundancies are being held, and Bass North is cutting manpower by natural wastage.

The biggest shutdown has still to come in the spring and later when 630 jobs disappear with the closure of a brewery and bottling plant by Courage, the Imperial Group subsidiary.

The brewery near Tower Bridge, London, closes in March and the bottling plant at nearby Southwark next year.

Some 350 jobs are to go at Whitbread, 200 of them in the North-west and the remainder in London.

All these belt-tightening moves have come as the brewers, hit by production declines of as much as 10 per cent in the past six months, face the quietest part of the production year before retail outlets start stocking for what is normally a spring upturn.

Most questions are now raised over how far the spring will restore the industry's battered fortunes.

## Shell, Esso and Mobil rises put 5p on petrol

By Nicholas Hirst  
Energy Correspondent

Shell, Esso and Mobil increased the wholesale price of their petrol from midnight last night. With the addition of VAT, most garages are expected to put 5p a gallon on pump prices.

Texaco and BP were still considering their prices yesterday but will shortly announce similar increases to put the average price of their four-star petrol to around 135p a gallon.

The increases come after rises in crude oil prices put into effect by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) in the Indonesian island of Bali last month.

The Opec agreement allowed increases of a maximum \$4 a 35-gallon barrel. Some countries, including Indonesia, Venezuela, Algeria and Nigeria have raised their prices by only \$3 a barrel but others such as Kuwait, Qatar and Libya have implemented the full permitted rise. Iran, yesterday announced a rise of \$2 to \$37.

Its prices were far higher than those of other comparable crudes before the Bali meeting and remain among the highest of all Opec members. Saudi Arabia remains the cheapest Opec producer, having raised its price by only \$2 to \$32.

After the Opec rises, the state-owned British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) increased the wholesale price of the 51 per cent of North Sea output it is entitled to buy under British participation legislation. The rise is likely to be accepted by the offshore companies.

Competition forced the large oil companies first to reduce the wholesale price of their petrol in July and then to offer special help to retailers so they could protect their market share. This support ended in December and with the latest price increases the cost of petrol will have risen 10p in little over a month.

With the war between Iran and Iraq continuing, there remains the possibility of further increases later in the year. Both Iran and Iraq have been able to export some crude recently but much less than the quantities shipped before the war.

## Bonn hears Turkish case for more aid

From Peter Norman  
Bonn, Jan 14

Mr Turgut Ozal, Turkey's deputy minister, arrived in Bonn today to continue his efforts to obtain Western assistance for solving his country's economic problems.

After talks in London with Turkey's bankers to discuss the possible rescheduling of more than \$3,000m of debt, Mr Ozal today met Dr Horst Schmiedemann, State Secretary in the Bonn Finance Ministry, and Dr Dieter von Wursten, State Secretary in the Ministry of the Economy.

According to Turkish diplomatic sources, Mr Ozal gave details of the present state of the Turkish economy and reported on his talks with the bankers earlier this week.

Although Mr Ozal has made clear that he would like the West to provide a third financial aid package for Turkey this year, the sources said he did not ask the Bonn officials for cash today.

It is understood that Mr Ozal would like the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to

provide Turkey in 1981 with rather more than the \$1,200m worth of financial aid provided last year.

In 1980 Herr Hans Matthöfer, the West German Finance Minister, played a key role in putting the aid package together, but officials in Bonn would be so willing to do the same this year.

Herr Matthöfer is a social democrat and, therefore, no natural friend of military regimes such as the one that now rules in Turkey. He is also having to cope with an extremely tight budget situation at home where in the words of one of his officials "every million counts."

On the other hand the Bonn Government would, undoubtedly, like to see that talks on revising the terms of Turkey's bank debts succeed.

Talks on the restructuring of Western loans to Turkey are expected to resume in about 10 days. After the meeting in London on Tuesday the 20 banks involved in these loans were sympathetic to Turkey's plans for economic reconstruction and repayment of \$21,000m (£8,780m).

## Minister gives warning on Shipbuilders' future



The Earl of Gowrie: urged boat to improve competitive position.

By John Huxley

Only the most substantial and rapid improvement in productivity and efficiency could give British Shipbuilders the prospect of a sound future, the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said yesterday.

His remarks came as officials of the state-owned corporation were meeting representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in London to discuss further cuts in the workforce.

The meeting, which was adjourned last night after six hours, was one of many aimed at achieving an orderly restructuring of British Shipbuilders' activities.

It is understood that union leaders were told that about 3,200 jobs must be lost over the next few months. Ship repair has been widely regarded as the most likely target for further job cuts, with Vespers and Southern being singled out for possible closure.

It is understood that no conclusive decision was taken on the future of Vespers.

Last November the Government announced that British Shipbuilders' cash limit for the year was being raised by £65m from the original £120m. A

month later the corporation disclosed losses for the first six months of the present financial year of £57m.

Lord Gainsford, speaking in the House of Lords, yesterday asked if the Government was satisfied with the level of efficiency of British Shipbuilders and that the £65m advanced to them would not be used for overmanning or to meet high wage demands.

The Earl of Gowrie replied: "His concern is a proper one. This is more a matter for the board of BS than ourselves. We have urged upon the board that they improve their competitive position as a result of the sub-

sidies being given to them."

Three appointments to the board of British Shipbuilders were announced by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, Mr Peter Byrom, an executive director of N. M. Rothschild and Sons, merchant bank, and Mr Cameron Parker, managing director of BS's new offshore division, became part-time members for two years.

Mr Bill Richardson, chairman of Vickers Shipbuilding Group, Vespers Turbocraft (UK) and Barclay Curle, who has been a part-time member for the past three and a half years, is to have his term extended a further two years.

## Firms deny plans to pull out of the market despite lack of profits Steel-nerved jobbers keep their options open

The next four months will be a testing time for those steel-nerved stockjobbers who have failed to make a profit from the traded options market since it started nearly three years ago, but are carrying on hoping for better times.

When London joined Chicago and Amsterdam and introduced what was described as "a professional market" - certainly not for widows or orphans - hopes were high.

But yesterday two of the five jobbers involved in making a market in 17 stocks - where at present dealers can only speculate on shares going up - admitted privately that they have not made a penny for at least two years.

The big stockjobbing firms such as Wedd Durlacher Mor-

darsch which says it is not preparing to scale down its involvement. "We have five dealers on the pitch and have had for five years. We have not made any money at it, but we have not discussed it," a representative said.

It is understood that Bisgood may scale down its options activity if the level of business does not improve. Although no time limit has been placed on when that kind of decision will be taken, May is thought to be the likely time of any review.

Stockjobbers need a high level of business to make their profit. The number of options contracts peaked at 2,106 a day in March, 1979, when people were betting on a Conservative Government. The following month the contracts dropped to 1,508 a day and continued to

drop to a low point of 344 in August of that year.

But business improved last year and average number of daily contracts in July, when people were gambling on the new Finance Bill, was 1,434.

Erratic trading through the second half of last year ended in a daily average number of contracts in December of 766.

It is estimated that contracts need to number around 1,500 a day for the jobbers to make a profit.

Mr Steen said: "What we need is education, not only of brokers but of investors generally. This market has enormous scope but we must go and tell the brokers about it which we have singularly failed to do."

Philip Robinson

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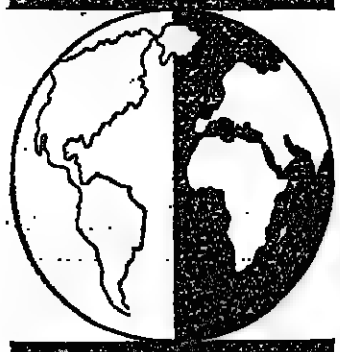
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## Fiat team in Moscow for £33m heavy vehicles deal

A team from Fiat-Allis, Fiat's earth-moving subsidiary, is in Moscow to conclude an \$80m (£33.47m) agreement for the sale of 300 crawler loaders to the Soviet Union.

The units, designed for heavy road and excavation work, weigh on average 63 tons and have 450 hp engines.

Fiat-Allis regards the contracts as particularly important because they represent about 10 per cent of its 1980 sales.

## \$218m soyabean sale

Brazil is to sell 700,000 tonnes of soyabean to the Soviet Union in the first direct transaction between the two nations. At present prices, the sale is worth more than £218m (\$22m).

## Honda to raise sales

Honda is planning to sell 1.08 million cars in Japan and overseas this year, 15.3 per cent more than in 1980.

## Retail stores venture

Negotiations are under way between Japan and South Korea to open joint-venture department stores in the Japanese cities of Osaka, Fukuoka and Kanazawa to handle general Korean products, including textiles, food and traditional crafts.

## OECD prices

Consumer prices in member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development rose 0.3 per cent in November, unchanged from October. Over the 12 months to end-November prices rose 12.4 per cent.

## China industry loans

The People's Bank of China will extend medium and short-term loans worth 1,000m yuan (£29.6m) this year to light and textile industries.

## EEC order for Olivetti

Olivetti of Ivrea has signed a 5.5 million European Currency Unit (£2.12m) contract with the EEC for an electronic computer programming system adopted by the Community Council. The British consultancy firm, Systems Designers, is acting as commission agent.

Dollar's importance in calculations cut by weighting on 1977 trade flows

## A new way of looking at sterling

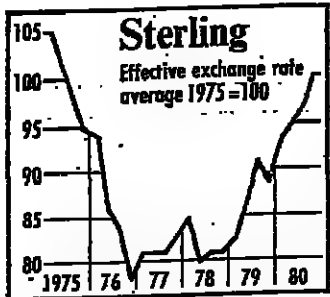
Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced yesterday that the basis for calculating sterling's effective exchange rate index would be revised from the beginning of next month. The index measures changes in the pound's value against a basket of world currencies, weighted according to their importance in world trade.

From February 2 the Bank of England will calculate the effective exchange rate index using weights based on 1977 trade flows, instead of 1972, to match those now published by the International Monetary Fund.

This has the effect of reducing substantially the dollar's importance in the index, its weight falling from one third to one quarter, and means that the index will be rather less sensitive to dollar changes in future.

In addition the index is to be rebased from February 2 so that 1975 average exchange rates = 100, in common with related United Kingdom economic series.

The present index uses December 18, 1971 to equal 100, and the index will be based on average daily London closing



rates rather than on middle rates.

The revised index, which has been calculated back to 1975, shows movements in sterling's effective rate very similar to those shown by the present index.

For comparison, last Friday the present sterling index closed at 79.1, while on the new basis it was 102.0.

Why an effective exchange rate index?

For more than 25 years after the Second World War, the world's major currencies were fixed in terms of the American currency.

Despite shifts in the value of certain currencies from time to time, exchange rates were relatively stable by today's standards and changes in a cur-

rency's rate against the dollar provided a reasonable indication of changes in its rate against other currencies as well. In 1971 the stresses and strains of maintaining a system of fixed exchange rates became more than the world monetary system could bear.

The pound, in common with other currencies, was floated in 1972. Floating exchange rates have produced greater instability in rates. Changes in a currency's value against the dollar no longer provide a reliable guide to its change against other currencies.

Earlier this week, for example, the pound was falling against the dollar but appreciating against European currencies.

To overcome this problem, indices of "effective" leading exchange rates have been devised and published for all the currencies. The index for sterling has been calculated by the Bank of England since 1973.

The index is designed to answer the question: What uniform percentage change in the sterling exchange rate against every other currency would have had the same effect on the United Kingdom's trade balance as the set of changes

that have actually taken place?

For the revised index, 18 countries are included in the weights (Yugoslavia, Hongkong and Taiwan have been dropped).

The weights come from an International Monetary Fund exchange rate model and reflect, in addition to world trade flows, the impact of exchange rate changes on imports and export prices and how this affects trade patterns.

The dollar is the single most important currency in the sterling index, with a weight of 24.6 per cent in the revised version compared with the present 32.8 per cent. It is followed in order of importance by the Deutsche mark, the yen and the French franc.

The fall in the dollar's weight is matched by increases in the weights of currencies such as the Irish punt, the yen, the guilder and the lira.

Two new exchange rate indices are to be published regularly in *Financial Statistics*, published monthly — sterling against the dollar alone, and sterling against the eight currencies participating in the European Monetary System.

Frances Williams

## Group will promote awareness of teletext and viewdata systems

By Bill Johnstone

A new group has been formed in the wake of a conference in London to coordinate plans for marketing Britain's teletext and viewdata systems.

The steering group will represent manufacturers, the Government, retailers and other interested groups in an attempt to advance the awareness of the services to the public.

Addressing the conference, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, emphasized that the British inventions "must be promoted, because of the commercial and industrial benefits that can accrue to the nation".

The announcement of the steering group coincided with a statement from Philips that it intends to conduct trials in Bournemouth, Brighton, Harrogate and Norwich to test the domestic market's reaction to Prestel, British Telecom's viewdata system.

The mood of the conference and the Philips initiative reflects the disappointment among manufacturers of television and auxiliary equipment in the slow progress that teletext and viewdata is making, particularly in the domestic market.

The two teletext systems are Ceefax, operated by the BBC and Oracle, run by Independent Television.

Both services are available on television sets which have been

adapted to allow access to pages of information. The information is broadcast with the picture but requires a decoder within the set. Such a set costs about 30 per cent more.

The Prestel sets allow access via telephone to information collated on British Telecom's computer. These sets are considerably dearer than ordinary colour television sets, at about £950.

Last year 1.9 million colour sets of all sizes were sold in the United Kingdom of which 90,000 were for teletext and only 5,000 for viewdata. In all there are about 100,000 teletext sets and 7,500 viewdata sets in the country.

Progress by both services has been disappointing. Surveys by Philips suggest that the teletext system should have more local content.

Mullard has developed a new chip which will be used on Prestel sets and by the end of this year could significantly reduce the price.

Mr Philips believes that, although price is a factor, more information is needed to find out what the public actually wants from Prestel. The company's year-long survey will begin in April.

The price of the set is dictated by demand. More public awareness of the services could increase demand.

Manufacturers in the consumer electronics business are keen on this market being better defined. Colour television sets are highly advanced



Mr Kenneth Baker emphasized that British inventions must be promoted because of the commercial and industrial benefits that could accrue.

products, which cost the average person two and a half weeks' wages instead of about 12 weeks' wages in 1969 when colour television was introduced in the United Kingdom.

The other nine and a half weeks of consumer spending potential are what manufacturers want to attract in their new products. At the forefront are teletext and viewdata equipment.

No one has had a good word to say for aggregation since it was removed from earned income in 1971, but it seems that it needs a final shove by a body with the clout of the Stock Exchange if we are finally to see this nasty doubly discriminatory piece of legislation off the statute books.

Yours faithfully,  
D. G. LINDSAY,  
36, Orchardcombe,  
Kew, Surrey, TW9 7QJ.  
January 9.

Japan's exports of most electronics products to the EEC have been growing rapidly in recent years. According to statistics compiled by the finance ministry on the basis of customs clearance, exports of colour television sets in the first 11 months of last year totalled 648,692 units, a 39.5 per cent increase on the same period in 1979.

Shipments of video tape recorders rose 145 per cent during the period to 1.132 million units, while those of colour television tubes rose 22.6 per cent to 2.54 million units — AP-Dow-Jones.

## Japanese accuse EEC over colour TV imports

Tokyo, Jan 14. — A top official of the Electronic Industries Association of Japan accused European producers today of "dumping" colour television sets in the European Economic Community to impose curbs on imports of colour television sets and tubes from Japan to control the EEC market themselves.

Mr Toshio Takai, executive vice-president of the association, said that Philips, of The Netherlands, and Thomson, of France, had been behind the apparently growing move inside the EEC to restrict imports from Japan.

"Frankly, we cannot understand why they (the EEC) are making such a fuss," he said.

"The only thing we can think of is that Philips and Thomson are pressuring some members of the Commission and trying to block us and obtain control of the market themselves."

Mr Takai said that, despite the mounting tide of protectionism, the Japanese electronics industry had no intention to restrict exports.

In an attempt to counter the criticisms, the association sent letters this month to EEC member governments as well as to industry in the region. The letter said that the present campaign against imports of Japanese tubes and colour television sets was only to disguise strategic mistakes and that it did not solve the real problems that the European consumer electronics industry was facing.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Industrial know-how for Third World

From Mr D. Taylor

Sir, I recently received a letter from an organisation called British Executive Service Overseas inviting me to send to Asia an expert from our company (which specializes in heat resistant alloy castings) to show a rival firm in a Third World country how to make similar castings of a quality to match our own.

This organization, Beso, a registered charity financed largely by the Overseas Development Administration, is preparing a bill for sending one of our experts to give away the expertise in quality production which is the only thing which keeps us ahead of our rivals in the cheap labour market of the Third World.

You can imagine my dismay when I found that this industrial fifth column claims support from the Confederation of British Industry and has an office at 116/119 Pall Mall, London, the address of the British Institute of Directors — which might be regarded as command headquarters of the fight for British industrial survival.

I am sure it will be as much a shock to the majority of your readers as it was to me, to learn that the imposing list of council members included the names of dozens of British industry; the very men whom most of us consider defenders of free enterprise exemplifying national loyalty, and who profess faith in the high quality of our goods to outsell lower priced, inferior quality products made abroad.

That this so-called "charity" is counterfeited for a day longer, makes a mockery of all our efforts to hold on to our remaining industries at this critical time. One wonders how many businesses have been undermined by having technological expertise subtly wrung out of advisors, sent in good faith by British firms.

An insidious aspect of this scheme is Beso's reliance on experts who are recently retired, redundant, or near the end of their service. By offering free passages, clothing allowances and all accommodation overseas, to the expert's wife as well as for himself, a man is made to feel it is an honour to reveal the vital trade secrets which have kept his firm ahead in years past, and which probably provide his pension.

We shall lose no international ill-will by immediately suspending this "charity". Reliance on the British tax payer may be minuscule but it could be the difference between survival or closing down yet another British business.

Beso sends an unwitting expert to equip a cheap labour rival to my company.

That is why I have written to each member of the Council of Beso inviting them to support my call to dismantle an organization which is a disservice to the nation. My letter says: "While acknowledging that at another time or age, there might well be room for a revival of the concept on a limited scale, this is the moment for the 'charity' to suspend its operations."

Yours faithfully,  
D. TAYLOR, Chairman,  
Auto Alloys Group of Companies,  
Berristow Lane,  
Hilcote,  
Blackwell,  
Hartlepool, Co. Durham,  
Derbyshire DE55 5JB.  
January 7.

My voting intention, however, is based mainly on the national condition rather than on any conditions peculiar to my company and, although I believe that the company would benefit, I also believe that there would be considerable benefit for the nation if the shareholders of other companies were to adopt the course which I advocate and follow the lead which I hope my fellow shareholders will provide.

The time is now ripe for a reinforcement of those recent actions which reflect the need to bring to an end the harmful ritual of annual and substantial increases in our "earnings". Shareholders, who mostly have

been acquiescent, are uniquely and ideally placed to indicate how they wish their income to change. A succession of shareholder votes during 1981, for the rejection or reduction of final dividend proposals, would serve as a declaration of dismissal for the deceitful concept that "living standards" must never fall or must be improved regularly.

Such a declaration, added to the evidence of the Brandt report and of our own unemployment levels, might be expected to assist trade union officers and managers (who negotiate earnings), directors (who recommend dividends) and Government and Opposition (whose adversarial behaviour sadly undermines the leadership which they both should exercise), to escape from the trap in which a national habit of unrealistic expectations has imprisoned them.

Yours faithfully,  
A. H. WRIGHT,  
Silver Birch,  
Longhill Road,  
Ascor,  
Berkshire SL5 8RE.  
January 13.

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## Incentives for BL workforce

From Mr David Penhaligon, MP for Truro (Liberal)

Sir, I do not know whether the battle he is fighting at British Leyland, Management with a 12-hour man being results but it cannot herald any long term solution to British Leyland's problems.

Now surely is the time for the Government to offer encouragement to claims to be a great believer in the profit motive; the trouble is hardly any British Leyland employee believes it will ever make any money and even if it does they know it will not directly benefit them. Obviously 100 per cent profit sharing is not a perpetual possibility but given the current situation would the Government in fact lose anything?

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID PENHALIGON,  
Liberal Party Spokesman for Industry,  
House of Commons,  
London SW1A 0AA.  
January 9.

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Yours sincerely,<



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Kenning stands out from the crowd

The year to last September was the worst for motor distributors since the end of the war. The sales slump caught them with huge stocks financed at high interest rates. Unloading these stocks led to a collapse in prices and one distributor after another has reported losses.

With companies like Braid Group, Caffyns and Bristol Street, all reporting losses recently Kenning Motor, by contrast, reports pretax profits of £3.99m (against £8.45m) and a maintained gross dividend of 7.86p a share.

Kenning does well in times of recession because it sells so many other things besides cars. It is a concessionaire for John Bull Tyres, a body builder, a manufacturer of electric vehicles and an operator of motor-vehicle service areas. It even does insurance broking.

The group also shies from breaking down profits or sales, but it has a stronger balance sheet than its competitors for garage companies. The balance sheet when published will show liquidity to be stronger than at the end of September, 1979. The group reports that in the past year Kenning Tyre Services did "creditably", though down on the year before, as did contract hire where the replacement cycle is longer than in car hire.

Industry estimates point to only 1.3 million or 1.4 million new cars being sold this year against 1.51 million last year when imports took 56.7 per cent of the market. Kenning reports that discounting continues on all models save the Metro but even more important, the industry now has a better balance between stocks and sales.

Last year huge stock losses should not be repeated. The group can also look forward to some easing in interest charges as these rose from £1.59m to £2.22m but to the extent that it sells more cars, finance charges will stay up. Kenning can also expect fewer competitors around this time next year.

Too much should not be expected from the Metro, however; small cars are not big profit earners, discounting could yet spread to the Metro and BL as a whole probably accounts for a lot less than 15 per cent of total profits. A professional revaluation has disclosed a property surplus over book value of £9.46m taking assets a share to 200p, but Kenning uses its assets in the business. The shares rose 11p to 68 1/2p but the yield is still 11.6 per cent. At one time last year they were only 58p and the immediate income attraction has gone.

### Magnet & Southern

#### Demonstrating resilience

In the timber sector Magnet & Southern remains one of the few groups to demonstrate a capacity to ride the recession. Its interim results certainly pleased the stock market; on only a 7 per cent slip in profits to £11.9m, the shares gained 8p to 118p.

Obviously, the company has not been wholly immune to the downturn in con-

struction more than two thirds of its business. This increased dependence reflects a reduced number of housing starts, and greater emphasis on repairs rather than total renewal in the present economic climate as well as a management push in that direction.

As a result, Magnet Joinery, the main strength, showed a modest profit improvement to £8.1m while Southern Evans's contribution dipped by 27 per cent to £1.9m.

Meanwhile, the group's likely profit should be around £24m against last year's £25m all underpinned by the likelihood that the Russians will prevent any softening of the timber price before the end of March to protect their customers from stock losses after a year of overstocking.

Magnet's balance sheet, with a £5m cash surplus, is strong so the shares, which now produce a 6.2 per cent yield, a slight premium rating in the sector, should continue to attract modest support.

### Stag Line Ropner sells; Hunting bids

Hunting Gibson and not as previously thought Ropner Holdings turns out to be the bidder for Stag Line—the dry cargo shipping group which returned to profits last year after two years of losses.

Hunting Gibson's 355p share cash offer, will be accompanied by a loan stock alternative, values Stag at £4.4m compared with a value at the suspension price of 260p of £3.2m.

Hunting has built up a 4.5 per cent stake itself and has also secured an irrevocable undertaking to accept from Ropner for its strategic 29.9 per cent stake.

Clearly any offer had to be well above the market price if it is to succeed. One informed analyst's estimate of Stag Line's adjusted asset value is 680p a share with a break-up value of about 350p. Additionally Stag Line, after turning round from a £636,000 pretax loss to a £214,000 profit in the year to last October, could be on course for about £700,000 pretax this year given the firmness of dry cargo rates.

It was not clear last night, however, what the Stag directors and family—who can probably account for 40 per cent of equity—will do. There have been other tentative bid approaches recently, so the possibility of a rejection cannot be ruled out.

### Linford Margins under pressure

Linford shareholders, including a 20 per cent stakeholder, Guinness Peat, may still have a long wait for reorganization moves to show through in profits given the current outlook for the foods business.

But with the bulk of restructuring complete and buoyed by £11.5m rights issue proceeds the group is at least trading water reasonably successfully. Interim pretax profits down 11 per cent at £4.5m reflect a period in which cutbacks in public catering put a squeeze on the wholesale division and disappointing petrol and non-food sales pared hypermarket margins to the bone.

Despite receipt of the rights cash in mid-June overall interest charges edged up fractionally to over £2m, partly reflecting the two warehouse closures and new store openings. Even so, net gearing at the year end is likely to show a significant reduction from last year's end's 85 per cent level.

The shares which eased 1p to 141p yesterday on the announcement of a maintained dividend still lean more on defensive merits than scope for growth. But a yield of over 11 per cent, assuming a same again final glow particularly brightly in the foods sector.

Meanwhile, profits this year seem unlikely to improve much on last year's £9.5m, but with Linford maintaining volume, the interim figures reflect a pretax margin pared to less than 1 per cent.

The hope is that following a reorganization which has brought around 15 different companies under three divisions, Linford can return to a more traditional margin in the 2 per cent range and for this reason a likely five-year p/e ratio of even 13 times may not be excessive.

### Economic notebook

## Getting out of limbo

As the Government sets about drawing up its Budget the inevitable starting point has to be acceptance that many of the numbers inscribed on the tablet of last year's medium-term financial plan have been rendered meaningless.

What, then, is the Government to do next about monetary policy? At the moment we are in limbo. The authorities are doing their best to rein back the growth of sterling M3 (notes and coin in circulation plus resident sterling bank deposits), helped by slackening private sector credit demand and, hopefully, by some seasonal improvement in the government's own finances. Meanwhile, ministers and officials ponder on how best to pick up the pieces.

The one thing that is not in doubt is that the Government does have to grasp the monetary reins once more. It may well choose to give rather greater emphasis to other aspects of economic policy this time round; it may well have to emphasize the need for rather greater flexibility in its monetary approach; it will certainly have to write off 1980-81 as a bad job.

Fine, but it will also need to demonstrate that it still intends to work towards progressively lower rates of monetary expansion, and that means that it still requires a published monetary target.

Uncomfortable though this may be, there can be no question of a change at this stage. Indeed, the only possible reason for a major shift in monetary policy at this time would be the discovery that the policy changes that might be needed were the Government failing to hold the line on public sector pay—would be serious upward pressure on the exchange rate.

For the moment, however, the more danger must be that an open admission of a laxer monetary approach would seriously damage overseas confidence in both the Government and the currency. The one course the Government can pursue at this stage in its anti-inflation battle is a major weakening of the exchange rate.

After the abolition of exchange controls and the substantial build-up in overseas holdings of short-term liquid assets in sterling over recent years—non-resident sterling deposits alone have more than doubled to around £11,000m in the last two years—the Government is sitting on what is potentially a much more manageable sterling problem than in the early seventies.

### Explanation

To convince people that a sterling M3 target of, say, 6.0 per cent for 1981-82 means anything after (unadjusted) growth approaching 20 per cent in the previous 12 months is going to require more ministerial explanation than we have had to date. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury fired the opening shot in Zurich yesterday.

The second essential is that ministers need to be sure this time round that the underlying economy is moving in such a way as to give them at least a fighting chance of attaining their target.

It is here, of course, that we move on to trickier ground. The main reason for thinking that a 6.0 per cent target might be attainable is simply that the rate of price inflation is downwards on this occasion, not up.

As I have already suggested, a target of 6.0 per cent for 1981-82 means anything after (unadjusted) growth approaching 20 per cent in the previous 12 months is going to require more ministerial explanation than we have had to date. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury fired the opening shot in Zurich yesterday.

in the trough as far as the inflation rate goes in this particular cycle?

What is certain is that the dampening of the inflation rate over the last year owes a great deal to the effect of oil, overseas confidence and high nominal interest rates on sterling.

So the big question now is whether the Government can expect, or afford, any further benefits from sterling appreciation. If not it is going to have to rely increasingly on sharply decelerating domestic costs to maintain the downward momentum in the underlying rate of inflation. In that respect a fall in pay settlements to little more than 10 per cent overall in the current pay round would seem to be needed.

That should not be an unreasonable expectation. But what the Government will obviously be keen to see is public sector pay settlements held as close to 6 per cent as possible to achieve the kind of saving in the relative price effect—the difference between public sector cost changes and price changes in the economy as a whole—needed to contain the public sector borrowing requirement and by extension to lend belief to the monetary target.

### Tax increases

If it can do this, then tax increases may not need to be that substantial to produce a prospective public spending borrowing requirement in the £10,000m-£12,000m range. If, however, the originally proposed £10 per cent sterling M3 target was indeed contemplated, then a figure nearer £10,000m would seem to be the maximum figure for comfort. Growth near the top end of the range would allow sterling M3 growth approaching £7,000m, while at the midpoint permissible growth would be about £5,500m.

Taking a PSBR of £10,000m then, and assuming growth in private sector bank lending in line with inflation, around £8,000m, the net increase in gross domestic credit expansion of some £16,000m before allowing for any increase in sterling bank lending overseas.

Netting out this last item (rather cavalierly) against any increase in the non-deposit liabilities of the banks would leave the Government needing to fund just about the whole of the PSBR outside the banking system.

With the net sales target of £3,000m for 1981-82, the Government is sitting on what is potentially a much more manageable sterling problem than in the early seventies.

On this plus the fact that it might well be that sufficient confidence in the strategy would permit the fall in long-term interest rates needed to revive the corporate bond market.

But there are at least two potentially problematic factors. The first is that the Government already has £5,500m of gilt-edged stock to refinance next year, keeping the required level of gross public sector debt sales at an uncomfortably high level.

Second, there is the potentially large unknown of flows across the exchange.

With the Treasury forecasting an optimistically £2,000m current account surplus for this calendar year, there will again need to be substantial outflows on the private sector capital account to prevent external finance having an expansionary impact on the money supply.

At what rate the Government could afford to try and generate such an outflow by a fairly sharp cut in short-term interest rates must be open to question. In short, the Government has a big task ahead if it is to restore confidence while at the same time reserving the right to flexibility which it may clearly require.

John Whitmore



The "take away" shop on the left can sell fish and chips on a Sunday, but the fish bar, not far away in the Caledonian Road, London, is forbidden by law to sell them on that day.

### CALEDONIAN FISH BAR

## Never on a Sunday, unless...

### Robin Young examines Britain's complicated shop hours legislation

Another attack was launched yesterday upon Britain's ludicrously complicated, anomalous and widely flouted shop hours legislation. The Shops Bill, presented by Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for West Flintshire, had its first reading in the House of Commons and will have its second reading debate on February 20.

There have been one government and six private members' attempts in Parliament to win reform. All have foundered on the entrenched opposition of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers (UDAW), the shop workers' union, allied with such diverse interests as the Retail Consortium, the National Chamber of Trade and the Lord's Day Observance Society.

So it comes about that on Sundays one may legally purchase a pornographic magazine, but not the Bible; a razor blade to cut one's corns, but not to shave with; and fish and chips from a Chinese takeaway, but not from a fish and chip shop.

Shop opening hours are controlled by the Shops Acts of 1950 to 1965, largely based on rules dating back to the beginning of the century. The law was written for a society in which theatres performed twice nightly, takeaway food was limited to fish and chips or cooked tripe, the chemist and garage owner lived on their premises, fewer women went out to work and people generally bought much less than they do now.

It was also, of course, a society in which shop workers were more likely to be kept at their posts all day and late into the night.

In the name of protecting shop workers' laws were introduced at the instigation of shopkeepers to stop other shopkeepers taking trade by opening at unusual hours. They were then amended as particular trades pressed the right to take advantage of things like the seasonal trade at seaside resorts or the late queues for the second house of the music hall.

The general principles of the law are clear. Shops must close by 8 pm on a weekday and 9 pm on a Saturday or one other day specified as "late night" by the local council. Shops are not allowed to open on Sunday and they must close one afternoon a week by 1 o'clock; the early-closing day.

It is the host of exceptions to these rules which complicate matters. Certain shops, including restaurants, fish and chip shops, newsagents at main stations, post offices and shops in resorts in the season can stay open as long as they like.

A special rule allows shops to sell sweets and tobacco until 5.30 pm. Chemists can sell medicines or medical appliances, and filling stations and garages petrol or accessories for cars, cycles or aeroplanes.

With law so complex and illogical it is fairly easy to

find loopholes. Many Sunday makers levy a small membership fee from people who want to shop outside legal hours and claim to be private trading clubs. Other schemes have included offering carrots for sale at £150 a pound with a free bedroom suite thrown in. The biggest loophole is the impossibility for local councils of enforcing the law effectively in its present state. Many, in any case, do not wish to and turn a blind eye when the law is ignored.

Opponents of reform claim that shop assistants and small retailers will be obliged to work excessive hours if the Shops Acts are changed and that extended trading hours would increase prices. But few shops keep open as late as they might at present and it is safe to say that none at all are open as long as the law would already allow.

That is because though the law says that shops must generally close by 8 pm, it is silent about when they should open, which can be any time from midnight. All shops could already be open 20 hours out of 24 on at least five days a week.

In Scotland shops do not feel obliged to open on Sundays simply because they are permitted to do so. Generally, large stores open on Sundays only as Christmas approaches.

Successive surveys by the Consumers' Association, the National Consumer Council and the Home Office—have shown that a significant minority of shoppers, working wives among them, want the opportunity of late night and Sunday trading. A large number of traders would also like the right to choose.

The Meyer Bill stands better chance of success than any of its predecessors. A Home Office inquiry has been cataloguing the sort of anomalies listed here, which already made hilarious reading when the Crathorne committee reported as long ago as 1964. Sir Anthony and his supporters are hopeful of government support, if required, in the Bill's later stages.

The Bill is drawn in a conciliatory way. It aims to tidy up and extend the complicated sets of exemptions in the schedules to the Shops Acts. It proposes to protect shop workers from having to work unreasonable hours by setting legal maxima for them. It would give local authorities the right, after consulting shopkeepers, shop workers and consumer organizations, to exempt shops in their areas from the closing requirements of the Shops Acts completely.

That would simply mean that shops in areas where exemptions were agreed would be free to open at times at which their customers wanted to shop. Surely, that is not too much to ask?

With law so complex and illogical it is fairly easy to

## Business Diary: On the buses • China cloy

William Fairhall apparently took a return ticket when he left London Transport eight years ago, to join asbestos makers Turner & Newall.

He worked for London Transport as a planner between 1970 and 1973 and then went on first to Tube Investments and then to T & N, where he became general manager, corporate planning.

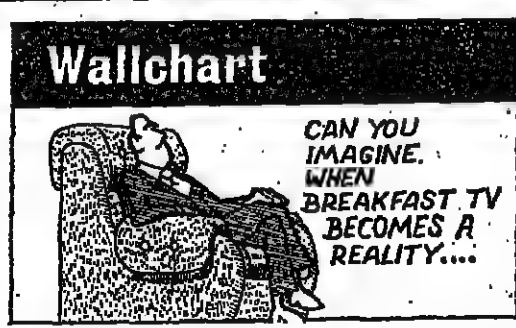
Now he is back at London Transport's Broadway headquarters in the new post of director of finance and planning. His predecessor in the former post of group financial officer, Harry Whitaker, is retiring.

For Fairhall, who is 39, it means a reunion with a colleague from way back—Mr Phillips, now the London Transport board member for finance and planning. In the early days Phillips himself reported to the board as the head of a new planning unit and Fairhall worked for him.

The new job is senior enough to tempt Fairhall and allow him to indulge in an interest from his early days—buses. After a false start reading chemistry—he took time off from college and spent a year "on the buses" as a conductor with East Kent Road Car Co at Whitstable where he was then living.

He then went back to his books, taking a first in economics at University College London, and then another first in the finals of the Institute of Transport examinations.

His main job at London Transport will be to run all the financial planning and management information and control systems upon which the board draws.



The big news of the year so far in the foreign bond market has been the invitation from the Foreign Compensation Commission for people to register by July 5 any claims for the loss of assets—excluding foreign currencies—lost after the communist revolution of 1949. This announcement doubled the price of sterling-denominated bonds on the Stock Exchange, although there is little confidence elsewhere that the Foreign Office is going to get either an early or a generous settlement on these bonds with the present regime in Peking.

Donald Ross, secretary of the collectors' group, The Bond and Share Society, says that as far as collectors are concerned both Chinese or Russian bonds, once the darling of this new market have dropped from their "giddy heights" of a year ago.

He added, however, that the "penny black" of scripphology is a Chinese bond, the 1898 £500 bond of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—but only 19 of these are still outstanding. One fetched a record £14,000 at auction last year.

Commander Ross and his scripphologists will be holding

an auction of their own soon when they stage their First International Scripphology Congress in London this March.

Club membership, he says, has increased from 385 to more than 600 and the fancy is now generating sidelines, ranging from jigsaw puzzles and wrapping paper to a service from a gentleman in Sweden who for £25 or thereabouts will confer upon you the dignity of "Doctor of Scripphology".

"There isn't as much money about as last year," says Commander Ross, "but collecting interest is steady and even strong at the lower end of the market, and that's a good thing, because it broadens the base."

I asked him what the non-collector might do on coming into possession of a few of these exotic documents. As befits the secretary to the society he said that one could always join up and meet collectors (the membership secretary is B. W. Mills, of 56 The Avenue, Tadworth, Surrey).

The big dealers including coin dealers, Commander Ross says, will both value for probate and buy on their own account.

Managing and sales directors will be attending meetings this week in London, and later on in Stratford upon Avon and Liverpool, where they will have an interesting idea put to them.

The reason for this is that the company is now staffed with holidaymakers in this country rather than abroad.

The idea comes from the English Tourist Board and is being marketed in cooperation with British Rail, travel agents Warwick West and three hotel groups: Hilton Holiday Inn and Best Western.

David Spain, ETE's manager, travel trade development, told me last night he would like not only to persuade the executives to buy British but to consider sending on incentive holidays "bread roundsmen, milkmen and shopfloor employees" as well as sales executives.

So far, many of the incentive holidays offered have been of the sun and sand variety. Spain says that it is not because of holidays here are now so expensive that they might be sought after. The attraction, he says, is England's infinite variety.

## The Stockholders Investment Trust Limited ASSETS SOAR 42%



### Highlights of the Year

The 42% increase in assets during the year to 31st October 1980 resulted from the emphasis placed on investment in the energy and technology sectors worldwide, which accounted for more than half the value of the Trust's portfolio at the year end. This proportion continues to increase. The accent in these sectors is on North America where the skills and inventiveness required in energy extraction and high technology are pre-eminent. Earnings per share increased by 24% and the dividend paid by 17%.

John Govett & Co. Limited Management Group

Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DH.



Ross Davies







## Commodities

[illegible]

## Wall Street

[illegible][illegible]

55.60c; May, 57.00c.  
 and early gains to  
 55 cent in spot  
 market; May, 56.50c  
 and 57.50c; June, 58.50c  
 and 59.50c; July, 59.50c  
 and 60.50c; Aug., 60.50c  
 and 61.50c; Sept., 61.50c  
 and 62.50c; Oct., 62.50c  
 and 63.50c; Nov., 63.50c  
 and 64.50c; Dec., 64.50c  
 and 65.50c; Jan., 65.50c  
 and 66.50c; Feb., 66.50c  
 and 67.50c; Mar., 67.50c  
 and 68.50c; Apr., 68.50c  
 and 69.50c; May, 69.50c  
 and 70.50c; June, 70.50c  
 and 71.50c; July, 71.50c  
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[illegible]

## Money Market

## Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%  
(Last changed 24/11/80)  
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%  
Discount Mkt Lend 15  
Overnight: High 13 Low 12 1/2  
Week Fixed: 13-15

Buying Treasury Bills (Direct)  
Selling

3 months	22½	3 months	12
6 months	22½	6 months	12
12 months	22½	12 months	12
Prime Bank Bill (Disc.)	Traded		
3 months	13½-13¾	3 months	14
6 months	13½-13¾	6 months	14
12 months	13½-13¾	12 months	14
Local Authority Bonds			
1 month	15½-15¾	7 months	26
2 months	15½-15¾	8 months	14
3 months	15½-15¾	9 months	14
4 months	14½-14¾	10 months	14
5 months	14½-14¾	11 months	14
6 months	14½-14¾	12 months	14

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

3 months	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 months	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 days	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months	14
7 days	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 month	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 year	13
<b>Interbank Market (%)</b>			
Overnight	Open 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13	Close 14	
1 week	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 months	23
1 month	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$	9 months	19
3 months	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 months	13
<b>First Class Finance Houses (Mkt)</b>			
3 months	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months	14

Finance House Base Rate 15 1/2%

Offer Time	14:00-15:00 Mid Offer Time	Mid
14:00-15:00	Barclays Life Assurance Co	14:00-15:00
15:00-16:00	15:00-16:00	15:00-16:00
16:00-17:00	16:00-17:00	16:00-17:00
17:00-18:00	17:00-18:00	17:00-18:00
18:00-19:00	18:00-19:00	18:00-19:00
19:00-20:00	19:00-20:00	19:00-20:00
20:00-21:00	20:00-21:00	20:00-21:00
21:00-22:00	21:00-22:00	21:00-22:00
22:00-23:00	22:00-23:00	22:00-23:00
23:00-24:00	23:00-24:00	23:00-24:00

27.3	2.41	114.8	131.3	Man Pen Acc	147.3
341.08	3.10	140.3	112.0	De Initial	136.3
		178.4	115.3	Git E Pen Acc	133.5
		133.1	106.8	De Initial	119.4

[illegible]

117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570
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[illegible]

	Cornhill Insurance,	
314.9	32 Cornhill, London, E.C.3.	
130.1	Valuation 15th of month.	
	167.0 120.0 Capital Paid	190 0
	58.5 49.5 Super Plan	66.0

[illegible]

109.4	4.52	147.8	100.0	Ind Pen Equity	147.8
61.8	70.42	212.6	300.0	Do Property	212.6
92.0	10.42	116.3	98.7	Do Field Lat	116.3
		115.2	100.0	Do Overseas	115.2
		116.2	100.0	Do Cash	116.2

[illegible]

135.7	114.3	F Int Initial	125.1
141.2	116.5	Do Accum	134.5
125.5	94.3	Int Initial	120.6
130.7	98.7	Do Acc	125.9

[illegible]

241.9	..	253.4	224.3	Do Acum	260.8
129.4	..	256.6	227.1	Do Gilt Edge	270.3
168.8	..	279.3	152.0	Do Acum	173.1
107.7	..	282.2	289.7	Pen. Ex. Tab	335.7

[illegible]

146.5	--	205.3	171.4	Du Man Acc	205.5
102.4	--	127.6	123.5	Du Ltd Cap	127.6
154.2	--	140.3	137.6	Du Ltd Acc	140.3
151.1	--	136.8	104.5	Du Eq Cap	136.8

[illegible][illegible]

asked; Dec. 85.30-85.40c; March, 85.25 bid-86.50c asked; May, 87.00 bid-87.50c asked.

[illegible]

73.63-	3¢, cents a bushel in revived trade.	July, \$25.05	Aug, \$25.50 bid-\$25.10
July,	WHEAT—March, 511 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -498c	May,	asked: Sept, \$25.30; Oct, \$25.05; Dec,
18.50c	521 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -509c; July, 511-499 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> c	Sept,	\$25.10; Jan, \$25.30 bid-\$25.40 asked.

[illegible]

303.9	354.3	Prop 1st Issue	5.0	303.9	..	142.4	121.0	Managed Fnd	136.5	141.1	..
95.0	100.0	Prop 2nd Issue	5.0	100.0	..	147.4	122.0	Equity Fnd	157.9	132.1	..
95.0	100.0	Managed Fnd	83.0	100.0	..	131.8	114.3	Paid Int Fnd	140.4	131.7	..
		Save & Prosper Group				137.5	122.7	Property Fnd	141.7	145.0	..

[illegible]

137.5	85.0	Equity Pn Cap	137.5	138.6	Breithr Unfrns International (105) Ltd.		
145.0	87.4	To Accum	144.3	141.8	1 Thomas St. Douglas, 1031	04/24/85	
288.9	235.6	Man Pn Cap B	282.5	275.5	94.2	89.1	Unfrns Acc Est 81.0
570.3	594.3	Man Pn Acc B	563.6	567.9	83.4	81.9	To Aus Bln 83.2
							86.06 7.00

[illegible]

107.3	101.6	Cash	107.3	112.0	..	50.3	106.4	Bankable	107.3	107.3	4.0
136.1	99.5	Pen Managed	127.2	134.1	..	57.54	97.47	Int Bond	107.3	126.10	1.7
100.6	100.5	Pen Property	105.0	111.2	..	17.73	12.26	Int Equity	107.3	107.3	0.12
154.5	99.3	Pen Equity	128.7	146.1	..	1.24	1.13	Int Org	107.3	1.23	1.29
154.9	99.3	Pen Total	128.7	146.1	..	1.83	1.26	Int Org	107.3	1.76	1.85

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

121.7	99.0	Pen Man Cap	121.0	120.5	17.79	9.36	Int Growth	\$ 13.08	14.15	..
124.5	100.0	Do Accum	122.2	128.8	12.99	10.00	Far Eastern	\$ 16.99	19.15	..
101.3	100.0	Pen Prop Cap	101.3	106.8	7.67	5.00	N. American	\$ 7.03	7.60	..
103.2	100.0	Do Accum	103.2	108.7	21.02	18.32	Supr	\$ 20.17	22.01	..
137.4	100.0	Pen Equize Cap	130.2	137.1						

[illegible]

108.0	175.0	Do Accounts	192.9	11.05	21.35	Cameroon (1st)	12.00	..
157.0	127.0	Do Inv	197.0	24.00	22.00	Morocco (40%)	24.00	..
223.9	104.7	Fixed Interest	219.4	1.807	1.341	Pacific (5)	1.357	..
219.1	106.7	Do Cap	212.5	Tyndall Group (Sale of Man),				
107.2	104.7	Non Fund Inc	107.2	Tyndall Group (Sale of Man),				

[illegible]

167.5	340.0	Trident Man	359.7	168.2	..
171.2	157.4	Do Guar Mkt	167.5	176.4	..
208.5	196.0	Do Property	208.5	220.7	..
194.8	88.8	Do Financial	113.6	113.7	..

\* Ex dividend. " Not available in the general

[illegible]



## Attempted rally fails

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

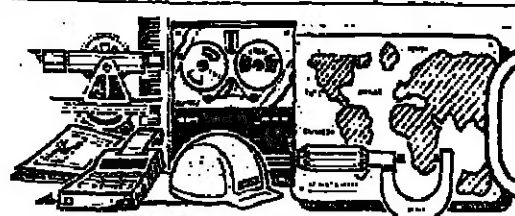
\* Ex dividend. \* Exall. \* Forecast dividend. \* Corrected price. \* Interim payment passed. \* Price at suspension. \* Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. \* Bid for company. \* Pre-merger figures. \* Forecast earnings. \* per capital distribution. \* Ex rights. \* Exactive share split. \* The free. \* Price adjusted for late delivery.

## RECENT ISSUES

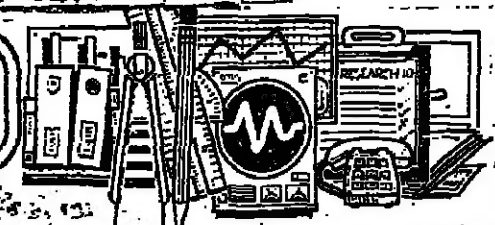
[illegible]

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# Recruitment Opportunities



Engineers Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Marketing General Computing Management & Executive Appointments

## SENIOR EXPATRIATE-SINGAPORE

A leading international trading company engaged in a diversified range of products seeks an expatriate General Manager—Technical Products Division.

Reporting to the Managing Director, Singapore, the incumbent carries full responsibility for a successful profit centre marketing high quality light engineering and building products, machinery and chemicals. Key functions of the position are business development, man management and overall administration.

The Division has marketing/sales staff of 55 in Singapore, East Malaysia and Indonesia. Some travelling to offices outside Singapore is required.

The successful candidate will probably be over 35 and will possess considerable commercial and management experience with trading companies in South East Asia. A university degree is preferable but not essential. More important is experience of technical products business and familiarity with marketing concepts.

The Company offers a good salary and expatriate benefit package, with career potential both in the region and elsewhere in the International Group.

BOX 2532 F THE TIMES

## THE BRITISH COUNCIL

### Director of Public Relations

Applications are invited for the new post of Director of Public Relations for the British Council.

The Director will be directly responsible to the Director General of the Council and will manage and control the services and activities of a PR Department to be established within the Council.

The Department will be concerned with the development and maintenance of planned public relations, publicity and promotional programmes for the Council, with the servicing of these activities within the Council and in particular with the training of those who will present the Council to external audiences in Britain and overseas.

The Director must present and interpret British Council policies and decisions to a wide range of audiences, ensure that there is proper feedback to management of views, attitudes and reactions and also establish systems for evaluating the services provided and the techniques used in the implementation of the PR, publicity and promotional programmes.

The appointment will be for three years. Starting salary including London weighting £17,500 p.a.

For further details and an application form to be returned by 3 February 1981, write or phone quoting B/1 to:

Staff Recruitment Department,  
The British Council,  
10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN,  
telephone 01-530 8468 ext. 2531 or 2544.

## Joining the Army when you graduate could be a costly mistake.

Make no mistake, you would do very well to join the Army when you graduate.

But you would do even better to join up before you begin your studies.

There is no restriction on your choice of subjects, University or Polytechnic.

You won't have to attend classes in uniform, squarebush around the quadrangle or sport a padding basin haircut.

And you'll be free to spend your holidays as you wish. Bricklaying in Birmingham or sunning yourself in Spain.

All that will separate you from your fellow students is a fixed income and a secure future.

£12,301 tax-free while you study.

If you aim to get your degree before you reach 25, apply for a 3 year Undergraduate Cadetship.

You'll pull in a salary of £3,650 in the first year, £4,099 in the second, and £4,552 in the third.

You won't have to sign your life away for the money, but you will have to undertake to serve five years after you have graduated.

You must also join the Officer Training Corps, if there is one nearby. And spend four weeks with your future Regiment each summer vacation.

The Army Bursary Scheme.

If you find the terms of the Cadetship a bit restricting, you can bump up your LEA grant with an Army Bursary.

At £900 tax-free, the amount you receive each year is lower, but then so is the commitment you are asked to make.

You are only required to serve three years as an Officer on graduation.

And while we offer bonus payments of up to £400 if you attend Officer Training and pay summer visits to your Regiment, we don't twist your arm to take them up.

A Warning.

This advertisement has made much of the money we offer undergraduates.

Attractive though it may be, it is the last reason you should apply for a commission.

An interest in the Army, the desire to tackle a challenging job, even an old-fashioned eagerness to serve one's country. These are the motives we value.

You will have ample opportunity to tell us why you wish to spend a few years in the Army.

Like any would-be Officer, you will have to attend the Army Officer Selection Board.

72 hours of written examinations, interviews and practical tests that will establish whether you have the qualities needed to succeed as an Officer.

If you are an undergraduate, or are about to become one, and are prepared to devote your energy and intellect to passing the Board, write to Major John Floyd.

Tell him your date of birth, your educational qualifications and your plans for the future.

The address is Dept.D35, Army Officer Entry, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA.

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## TRAINING OFFICER

HTV, the Independent Television programme company for Wales and the West of England, is seeking a Training Officer.

This is a newly created post at middle management level, based in Cardiff and reporting to the Director of Operations on training matters throughout the Company. The workforce is approximately 800-strong, spread between Cardiff, Bristol, London, Mold, Bangor, Taunton, and Carmarthen.

Duties will include identifying training needs for all types of staff (engineering, production, operational, managerial and clerical); planning and implementing a training programme in consultation with senior management; maintaining the effectiveness of the programme; and administering training matters.

The job calls for a graduate, with proved practical experience of training in industry, who is able to work largely on his or her own initiative, and to communicate with staff at all levels. Preferred age range: 30-40; maximum 45. Salary by negotiation. Assistance with re-location expenses if required.

Suitably qualified candidates should write for an application form to:

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER,  
HTV,  
CARDIFF.

Judy Farquharson  
Limited  
17 Gordon Street, London, W1X 5FD  
01-530 8468

## ASST. COMMERCIAL MANAGER/ESS WARWICKSHIRE

Exciting opportunity for enthusiastic, motivated, young graduate to join a leading company in the commercial sector. The successful candidate should have a degree in a relevant subject and be able to communicate effectively. Salary £6,000-£7,000 plus fringe benefits. The successful candidate should be given increased responsibility with salary to match.

SALES EXEC'S.  
With experience, for engineering, sports and leisure goods and hospital sales. Salaries £7,000-£9,000 plus benefits.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
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## Graduate Recruiting Officer Circa. £7,500

Spicer and Pegler is a leading firm of Chartered Accountants based in the City of London with offices throughout the United Kingdom. We have a very high reputation for the recruitment of outstanding graduates and in order to maintain this position we are anxious to recruit an assistant for the Personnel Manager.

The successful applicant would be actively involved in the recruitment of about 150 graduates each year, including the selection of candidates for second interviews by partners, maintaining contact with university careers and accounting departments and designing staff advertisements and recruitment literature. In addition, he/she will be required to deputise for the personnel manager in all other areas of personnel work.

Candidates should preferably have experience of graduate recruitment procedures gained in a professional office.

Applications with full C.V. to:  
Mrs. S. J. Colms, Personnel Manager,  
Spicer and Pegler, St. Mary Axe House,  
56/60 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BJ.

## BOOK PUBLISHING

The Sales Director of Edward Arnold, publishers of school, college and university level books is looking for a young assistant to work closely with him in the Sales and Promotion of our titles to certain export areas including the Middle East. This post is essentially for a beginner, and therefore experience, while helpful, is not essential. A scientific or engineering degree would be helpful, but intelligence, the ability to work hard, using your own initiative, adaptability and common sense are vital. The successful applicant will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to the Sales Director, Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DQ.

## COUNTRY LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

require an

### Assistant Game Fair Director

for preparation and running the annual Game Fair in future years. C.L.A. requires a part-time Assistant Director, resident within 25 miles of national Game Fair office in Shrewsbury. Applicants aged between 40-55 years should have fair knowledge of field sports, proven experience in Committee work and Administration, and a willingness to assist Director in all matters relating to the fair. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Physical fitness for outdoor work essential. Enquiries to writing to Game Fair Director, Shrewsbury House, St. Albans Square, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Apply in first instance to:

The Managing Editor,  
Argus South African Newspapers Ltd.,  
85 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1ED  
Telephone: 01-353 3765

## TOP FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

with wide international horizons required by the largest daily newspaper in South Africa to join a team covering the fast growing economy of South Africa.

Excellent prospects for candidate capable of writing on all aspects of the financial scene, in the business capital of Johannesburg.

Attractive work conditions, tax levels, medical aid, scheme, pension fund.

Apply in first instance to:

The Managing Editor,  
Argus South African Newspapers Ltd.,  
85 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1ED  
Telephone: 01-353 3765

## BURNS

35 George Street, W1  
require experienced Sales Assistant designer clothes shop.  
Please contact Anne Wilson for appointment, 01-462 3500.

## STUDENTS' UNION ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Due to retirement the Students' Union is seeking an assistant to work in the Accounts Department. The successful applicant will have a degree in a relevant subject and be able to communicate effectively. Salary £6,000-£7,000 plus fringe benefits. The successful candidate should be given increased responsibility with salary to match.

SALES EXEC'S.  
With experience, for engineering, sports and leisure goods and hospital sales. Salaries £7,000-£9,000 plus benefits.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
JFL

## MANUFACTURERS AGENTS REQUIRED

All areas. Agents working on commission only, required by manufacturer to sell their new range of household goods. Male or female, age 30-40, with experience in selling household goods. Absolutely top quality items. Right person should be capable of five figure D.A. earnings. Product launch at International Spring Fair, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Reply with brief details stating telephone number to Box 2532 F The Times.

SALES EXEC'S.  
With experience, for engineering, sports and leisure goods and hospital sales. Salaries £7,000-£9,000 plus benefits.

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## BRITISH MUSEUM Egyptian Antiquities Research Assistant

...to prepare educational material for publication, including booklets and teachers' notes. This involves writing texts and assembling photographic and other material to illustrate and explain the objects. Work will also include helping with educational projects and giving occasional talks, answering enquiries from the public and helping to prepare departmental exhibitions.

Candidates must have a degree (or equivalent), or have undertaken post graduate studies, in Egyptology and have a reading knowledge of French and German. Ability to write clearly and simply is essential. Salary will be fixed in accordance with the civil service rules and regulations commensurate with qualification and experience of the candidates. Upon satisfactory result of the interview, offer will be made by the interview board straightaway.

Applications addressed to the Head of the Bureau of the British Museum, Egyptian Antiquities, 5 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4JU, within two weeks from the date of advertisement. The date for interview will be announced through the local daily newspapers.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL  
S.P.L.A.J.  
Tripoli, P.O. Box 2479.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 5 February 1981) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G(36) 382.

## PRODUCTION CONTROLLER

and Assistant to Technical Director required by family company manufacturing instruments for the Printing and Surface Coating Industries from a rural base near Cambridge.

Our client offers a starting salary around £5,000, bonus, company car, moving expenses etc. Further particulars from the undersigned on receipt of S.A.E. at least 9" x 4"

J. Snowden Esq., Senior Consultant, Broom Barn, Conisburgh, 44 High Street, Boreham, Northants NN17 4NU.

## LEGAL EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

REQUIRED FOR THE LAW REPORTS

Editor requires P/A for interviewing and editing of interviews with legal experts in which accuracy is essential. Audio typing experience necessary. Possibility of training in use of word processor. 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and shorter hours during late vacations. £4,000 to start. Phone Margaret 6 rooms, 01-242 4248.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

For expanding private security company. Very high remuneration plus company benefits. Possible equity participation. PLEASE SEND FULL C.V. TO BOX NO. 2385 F. The Times.

## HIGHLAND HOTEL

Within comfortable reach of Glasgow, Highland and with room required to manage and work some seasonal country hotel as their own. Anxious to achieve rewarding bonus in addition to salary. Not an easy position. Full available. Approximate salary £20,000. PLEASE WRITE GIVING AGE EXPERIENCE AND FULLEST DETAILS TO Box 2531 F. The Times.

EXPERIENCED BOOK-KEEPER required to take charge of Accounts Department. Must be a qualified bookkeeper with experience in the printing and surface coating industries. The Director, Universal Studios, Crisp Rd., London W.C.2.

COLLIERS—French, German and Italian speaking students, wanted to act as couriers on European continents in 1981. Other April/May to July or July to the end of September. For more details, write to: Bernadette Kirrane, European Travel Unlimited, 100, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LP. Tel: 01-583 7666.

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## STRUCTURAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERS SEEK NEW PARTNERS

Long established and well known firm. Medium size with excellent reputation. Located South of London seeks

Associates in preferred age 40's with proven Business Development and/or General Management ability to become Partner within 2 years, Senior Partner possible within 5 years, to further the Firm's Plans for Growth and Diversification Home and Overseas.

If interested telephone:

Sarah Harrison, 01-930 6404  
Ontario House, London, SW1.

who will arrange for you to meet the Firm's Consultant. Strict confidence.

## CHARITY FUND-RAISER

The Housing Associations Charitable Trust, one of the largest housing charities in the U.K., will shortly be appointing a full-time fund-raising officer for a new housing scheme for a specific project. Housing experience is an advantage but not essential.

The person appointed must have wide experience in the charitable fund-raising field and, in particular, experience in successfully raising the or more local fund-raising campaigns for a specific project. Housing experience is an advantage but not essential.

Write with C.V. to The Director, Housing Associations Charitable Trust, 30-32 Southampton St., London, WC2E 7JW, before 10th February, 1981.

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Keele  
CHAIR OF GERMAN

Applications invited to fill Chair of German to be vacated on 1st September 1981. The successful candidate will be expected to teach German at the University of Keele. Further particulars and application forms should be sent to the Registrar, The University of Keele, Keele, Cheshire ST5 5BG. Closing date for applications 15th February 1981.

## PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of London  
CASSEL CHAIR OF ECONOMICS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MONEY AND BANKING TENABLE AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Senate invites applications for the Cassel Chair of Economics with special reference to money and banking tenable at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The Chair is held by a senior academic who is expected to teach and supervise research in the field of money and banking. Further particulars and application forms should be sent to the Registrar, The University of London, Senate House, London WC2A 3EU from whom further particulars should be obtained. Closing date for applications 15th February 1981.

## CPK Construction Ltd.

01-584 8317  
106 Fulham Road, London, S.W.3.

JUNIOR Sales Promotion Executive. 671 0233. Young negotiator with some experience in sales promotion. Must be a graduate with a degree in a relevant subject. Salary £6,000-£7,000 plus fringe benefits. The successful candidate should be given increased responsibility with salary to match.

SALES EXEC'S.  
With experience, for engineering, sports and leisure goods and hospital sales. Salaries £7,000-£9,000 plus benefits.

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